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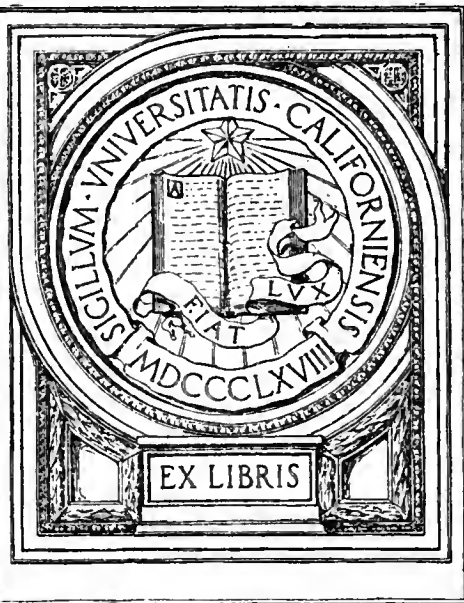
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**HAND BOOK  
OF THE  
NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY  
AT ELMIRA**

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F. C. ALLEN,  
Compiler of Hand Book







THE REFORMATORY-1906

# HAND BOOK

OF THE

## NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY

"

### AT ELMIRA

Compiled by  
*FRED C. ALLEN,*  
of the Administrative Staff

♦ ♦ ♦  
*IN TWO PARTS*

♦ ♦ ♦

Part One contains a history and description  
of the reformatory and its methods of  
administration. ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Part Two includes articles and excerpts of reports  
pertaining to the reformatory system, and a  
compilation of laws governing the reformatory.

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1906.

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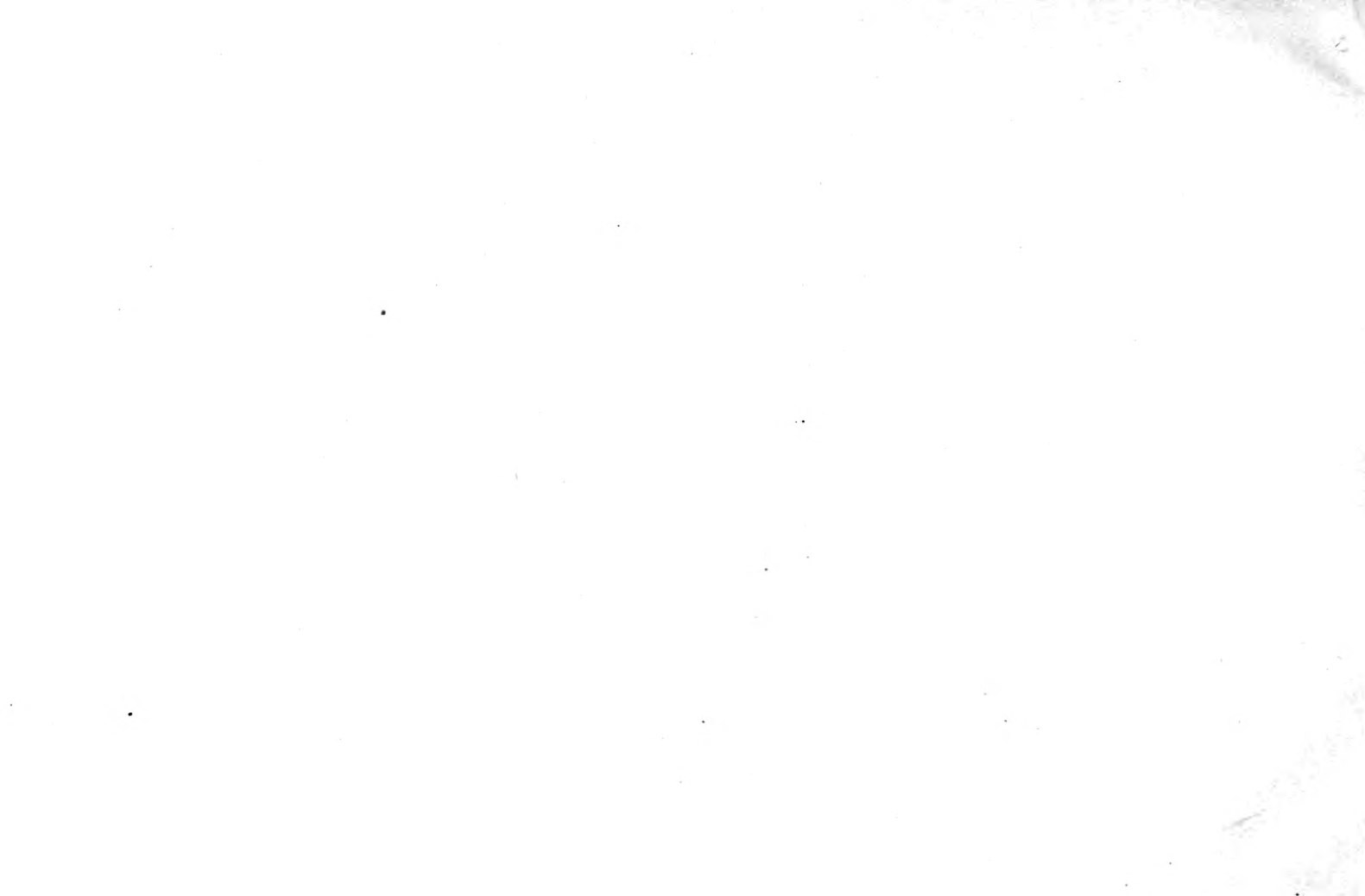
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THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE





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Hand Book  
of the  
New York State Reformatory at Elmira  
PART ONE  
THE REFORMATORY.

♦♦♦♦

BY F. C. ALLEN

**I**N the year 1869 a law was enacted in the state of New York, authorizing the establishment of an institution for the reception of male felons, between the ages of sixteen and thirty, not previously convicted of any crime punishable by imprisonment in a state prison. The institution was to be located in the city of Elmira, and its name was to be the New York State Reformatory at Elmira.

In due time the construction of the reformatory was commenced. In July, 1876, its first prisoners were received; others followed, and in January, 1877, the population numbered 164. Inmate labor was utilized to hasten the completion of the various

buildings in process of construction, and in 1878, the institution was in condition to render possible the application of the system which had been devised for the discipline and employment of its inmates. Since that time, buildings have been added, from year to year, and the number of cells in the prison proper, has been increased to 1,264.

The reformatory is located on a moderately high table land in a pleasant part of the city, near its western boundary; the institutional wall incloses a portion of land comprising nearly sixteen acres. A farm of 280 acres, adjoining the enclosure, westward, also belongs to, and is operated in connection with the institution; the produce

## NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY

therefrom contributing toward the maintenance of the prisoners.

The appearance of the reformatory is stately and imposing; its principal buildings are ornate in their construction, their lofty spires and turrets taking an added air of dignity because of the institution's elevated location, which commands an excellent view of the adjacent valley.

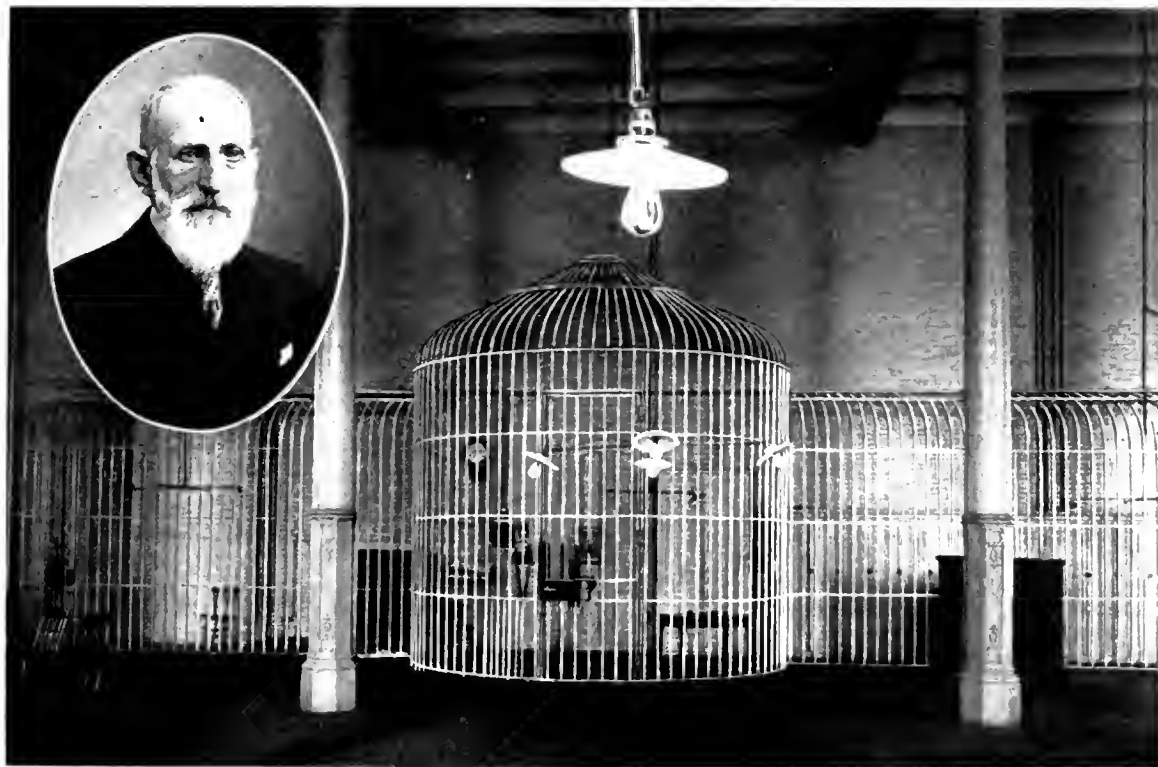
The purpose for which the institution was designed, is indicated by its name "reformatory." To cause all of the inmates, not incapacitated by ill health or other infirmity, to work daily at some useful employment, both physical and mental, was considered of the first importance in the process of reformation. As a means to this end, factories and shops were built within the prison enclosure, soon after its completion, and in these, a majority of the prisoners worked, manufacturing various articles for sale. Among the first productions of this character were brushes and hardware. Supplementing the manual work, a school of letters was finally organized, in 1879; its sessions were held on

certain evenings of the week, and its membership included practically all of the population. It was considered that schooling in letters was an essential factor in reformatory work in that it aided in preventing the inmates from degenerating in mental power, during confinement; and aside from this, was of great value because it aided them to take a more elevated station in life, upon their release.

After the manufacturing industries had been in operation for several years, it was decided that, while this work wrought a beneficial effect in that it furnished a means of teaching the inmates to think for themselves, and aided in establishing habits of application, it was defective by reason of the fact that the different branches of manufacturing, as here conducted, were too few in number to furnish sufficient diversity of trades taught; and the further fact that the trades actually acquired were found in many instances, unremunerative, or unsuitable for the inmates who learned them.

In view of this it was thought best to try the experiment of establishing classes for the sole

BURDETTE SPENCER,  
Turnkey—Thirty Years in the Service



MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE REFORMATORY



purpose of trades teaching, without reference to the production of articles for sale and profit, and in the summer of 1883, a test class in clay modelling was established for the purpose of ascertaining the efficacy of specific industrial training as an aid to reformation. The experiment proved so satisfactory that trades classes in carpentry, clothing-cutting, plumbing and telegraphy were established during the following summer. In 1888, a special building was completed for the occupancy of the trades classes, and their establishment, as a permanent feature of the reformatory work, became assured. At the close of that year, instruction was given in eleven trades and six hundred inmates were in the trades schools. A trades school director was engaged to take charge of this department; the capacity of the classes was gradually increased and the course of study extended until, in 1894, it became possible to afford each inmate an opportunity to receive trade instruction. The curriculum at that time included thirty-four trades.

The school of letters, whose organization, as

stated above, was completed in 1879, numbered about five hundred pupils; these were accommodated in a half-dozen large class rooms, suitably equipped with the necessary school furniture. The educational course embraced only strictly common school studies in which were included, of course, reading, writing, arithmetic and geography. The schedule was arranged to cover a period of two years; school sessions occurring on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings of each week. The educational department was in charge of a school director, who taught in the schools, and was assisted in his work of imparting instruction, by several other gentlemen, engaged for this purpose, residing in the city of Elmira.

The foregoing sketch, necessarily brief, will, it is hoped, aid the reader to a general knowledge of the origin of the reformatory, and the reasons for its establishment. Since the reception of the first prisoners, in 1876, the constant purpose of the successive boards of control has been to develop its reformatory possibilities and extend its capacity.

With these results in view, buildings have been added to the institution as they were needed, for the use of the trades and school of letters classes. Additions to the main building were also constructed containing cell blocks for the accommodation of the increasing population. After a time, the prison enclosure, originally containing but eight acres, was enlarged, rearward; the wall now enclosing, as previously stated, approximately sixteen acres.

The reformatory agencies, successfully employed in years past, are, in most instances, still in operation in the reformatory, although various modifications have been adopted where it has appeared to the management that such changes would tend to improve the original plan; among these may be mentioned the change in the number of grades, or divisions into which the population is separated, from four, to three; and the substitution of day for evening classes, in both the school of letters, and trades school departments.

We shall next endeavor to explain, with some attention to detail, the manner in which the reforma-

tory is conducted at the time of the present writing.

#### **The Management of the Reformatory.**

The affairs of the reformatory are administered by a board of managers, appointed by the governor of the state, with the approval of the state senate. The term of a manager is five years and the dates of appointment are so adjusted that during each year the term of some one of the managers expires, and another appointment is made, so that at all times a majority of the board is experienced in its duties.

In view of the fact that more than two-thirds of the prisoners committed to the reformatory are sentenced from the city of New York, or vicinity, it is considered expedient that two of the managers should be chosen from that city. At present two are also appointed from the city of Elmira, so that their advice or other assistance can be readily secured by the reformatory, when necessary. The remaining member of the board is usually chosen from the western section of the state.



THE BOARD OF MANAGERS—1906





The board of managers elect annually, from their number, a president, a vice-president, and a secretary and treasurer, the term of office of each being one year. The board meet, in regular session for consideration of, and action upon reformatory matters, once in each month, the date chosen being usually near the middle of the month. At every third regular board meeting, parole is authorized for inmates whose institutional record entitles them to same. Also, upon these occasions, a personal interview with members of the board is granted to each prisoner who may desire it.

#### **The General Superintendent.**

The reformatory is in charge of a general superintendent, chosen by the board of managers. The executive staff under his direction, includes an assistant superintendent, a chief clerk, a steward, a physician, an assistant physician, a chaplain, a director of the school of letters, a director of the trades school, a disciplinary officer, an instructor in military, and a chief engineer. The general force

comprises guards, instructors, clerks, mechanics, firemen, teamsters, and others.

In addition to exercising a personal supervision of the daily affairs of the institution, the general superintendent, at the beginning of each month, executes all promotions or reductions in grade; he likewise assigns to each prisoner, his place in the reformatory routine, and from time to time, grants interviews to all inmates desiring same.

At each regular meeting of the board of managers, the general superintendent brings to their attention, any matters transpiring subsequent to the previous meeting, upon which he may desire their advice or official action. He also submits for their consideration and approval, certain regular monthly reports, including a statement of the finances of the institution, a report concerning the health, school status, promotions or reductions in grade, and general welfare of the inmates, a statement showing changes, if any, in the reformatory official roster, during the past month,

and other monthly reports upon which, action by the board is desired.

#### **The Nature of Commitments.**

Men are committed to the reformatory under two forms of sentence known respectively as the determinate, and the indeterminate. The determinate sentence, as its name implies, imposes a penalty of imprisonment for a definite period. The indeterminate sentence differs from the determinate in that the prisoner so committed is not sentenced for a definite period, but the date of his release is determined upon by the board of managers at their discretion; but he cannot be held longer than the maximum time for which he could have been sentenced to a state prison, for the crime committed.

#### **"Definite" or United States Prisoners.**

The prisoners committed to the reformatory under the determinate sentence constitute but a small proportion of the prison population. They are sentenced by the United States courts for crimes against the federal government and are termed "*United States Definites.*" They are received

here in accordance with the state law and as previously stated, are not eligible for release under the conditions provided by the indeterminate sentence.

#### **State, or Indefinitely Sentenced Prisoners.**

The bulk of the inmates received at the institution are committed under the indeterminate sentence and in accordance with its provisions may be released within one year after their admission, provided they comply with certain conditions; on the other hand, should they fail to meet these requirements, and the board of managers so elect, they may be held until the expiration of the maximum prescribed by law, for the crimes which they have committed.

#### **The Release of Prisoners by Parole.**

The conditions under which a prisoner may be released from the reformatory, prior to the maximum prescribed by law, are as follows: his general demeanor, and his record in school of letters, and in trades school, must be such as to give the board of managers good reason to believe that he will, if



FRANK W. ROBERTSON, M. D.,  
General Superintendent, 1900-1903



Z. R. BROCKWAY,  
General Superintendent, 1876-1900



JOSEPH F. SCOTT,  
General Superintendent-1903



so released, become a law-abiding citizen. It is also necessary before this conditional release can be granted, that he obtain employment; such employment to be, if practicable, in the town from which he was sentenced, and at the trade learned while at the reformatory.

A prisoner released under the conditions as stated above is said to be paroled, and, upon his departure from the institution, he is given what is termed a parole paper which contains printed instructions which he must implicitly obey if he would obtain his permanent, or absolute release from the reformatory. The parole paper informs the prisoner that the board of managers has decided to parole him with the understanding that he is to be honest in his dealings; that he is to avoid evil associates and abstain from intoxicating beverages; that he is to proceed immediately to the place of employment provided for him and there remain, steadily at work for at least six months, unless in the meantime, he shall obtain from the management of the reformatory, permission to change his

location, or class of employment, or both; that each month he is to make a written report to the general superintendent, giving a somewhat detailed statement in regard to himself and his surroundings, and telling whether or not he has been steadily earning wages during the past month, and if not, the reason for his failure so to do. This report, before it can properly be accepted by the general superintendent, must receive the certification of a duly authorized supervising agent of the reformatory, residing in the locality from which the prisoner was sentenced. Such agent, for the city of New York, is the New York Prison Association, and for towns outside that city, usually the chief of police, or other peace officer. After making six satisfactory monthly reports to the management, paroled men are usually given an absolute release from the reformatory.

#### **Parole of Invalids.**

Should a prisoner become so seriously ill that, if retained in the institution, his recovery would be considered doubtful, or impossible, the board of

managers, upon the recommendation of the general superintendent, informed and advised by the physician, may grant him what is termed an invalid parole, provided the relatives or friends of the prisoner are willing and able to properly care for him if so released.

**No Other Method of Release Except  
Executive Clemency.**

With the exception of executive clemency, the two methods of parole outlined in the foregoing paragraphs comprise the only means for the release of indeterminately sentenced reformatory prisoners, prior to the expiration of their lawfully prescribed maximum sentences.

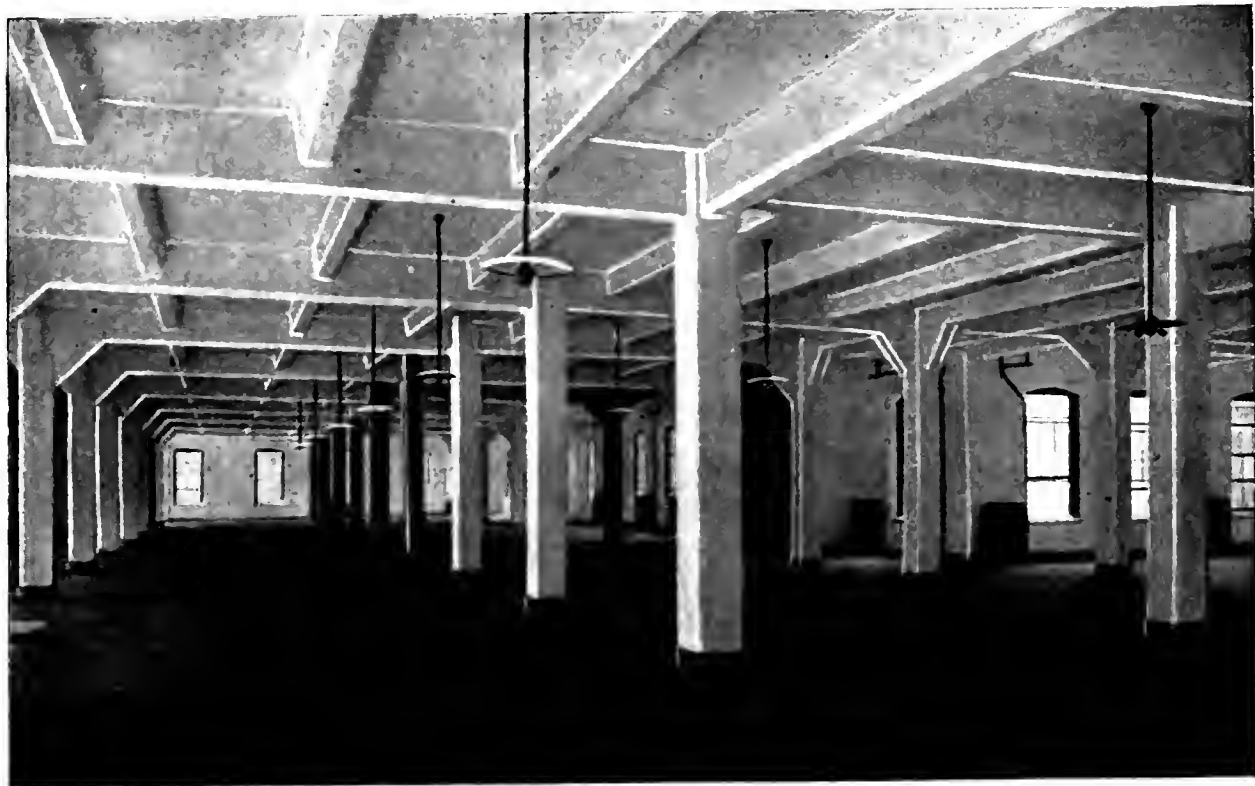
**Prisoners Divided into Three Grades.**

The reformatory population is divided into three grades: first, second and third. Each man upon admission to the institution, is placed in the second grade, from which, by making a good record in demeanor, school of letters, and trades school, he may rise to the first grade or, by failure to do this may drop to the third. Six months of proper

institutional record in the second grade ensures promotion to the first grade; a like six months in the first grade entitles the prisoner to consideration by the board of managers for parole. For improper demeanor, if sufficiently serious, reduction in grade is possible at any time. Poor school work, if below certain prescribed standards, and persisted in for a month or more, also necessitates grade reduction. After reduction to the third grade, at least one month of proper record is required before eligibility for promotion can be considered. Prisoners may be reduced from the first to the second, from the second to the third, or from the first to the third, but they can be promoted only one grade at a time.

**The Various Grades Distinguished by  
Difference in Clothing or Collar Device.**

The first and second grades are clothed, in winter, with black coats and gray trousers; in summer with khaki uniform, the difference in grade being denoted by a number worn upon the



THE PRISONERS' DINING ROOM  
New Domestic Building, Completed, 1906





collar of the jacket. Red coats and trousers are worn by the third grade.

#### **The Marking System.**

Under the Elmira reformatory system it is designed that each prisoner, from the date of his admission until granted his absolute release, shall be taught the value of self-support and to this end his personal account is credited with a small daily amount, intended to represent wages, and is debited with the cost of all he receives, be it for meals, lodging, clothing, medical attendance, or fines incurred; nothing being furnished gratis with the exception of his first outfit of clothing, and a few other necessary articles of like character. It is possible for a prisoner of average health and intelligence to defray all his institutional expenses, as enumerated above and still have remaining to his credit when released, a small balance, sufficient to pay for his transportation to place of employment, and temporary subsistence until he receives his first wages in free life.

#### **How the Prisoners are Boarded.**

The prisoners take their meals in dining rooms, to which they are assigned according to grade. The food supplied to the three grades is uniform in quality but the ration of the first grade admits of a somewhat greater variety than does that issued to the second and third grades.

First grade prisoners who have been economical in their various expenditures, and have thus obtained a certain credit balance, showing a specified sum saved, occupy a separate dining room and are allowed a more extended dietary than their fellows, their accounts being duly debited with the cost of the additional items received. These prisoners are also permitted to converse while at table, another privilege not accorded to inmates using the other dining rooms.

#### **Sleeping Rooms of the Prisoners**

The prisoners' sleeping rooms are seven feet wide, eight feet long, and nine feet high and each has its ventilator, opening at the roof of the institution. The walls are whitewashed and in

each room is an iron bedstead, a wooden cupboard, table and chair, and an electric lamp. Closets and lavatories are being installed in 176 of the rooms, and it is expected that eventually all will be so equipped.

**Prisoners' Clothing Manufactured at the Institution.**

With the exception of a few minor articles, including collars and neckties of prisoners going out on parole, the clothing of all the prisoners is made up at the reformatory, the material being purchased from other state institutions.

**Prisoner's First Outfit Free of Cost to Himself.**

As hereinbefore mentioned, each man is allowed his first outfit, free of cost; this includes coat, vest, trousers, shirt, two suits of underclothes, cap, shoes, stockings, wash-basin, water-cup, broom, dust-pan, comb, hair-brush, tooth-brush, blacking-brush, box of blacking, towel, soap, four sheets, two pillow-cases and one blanket. For the renewal of this outfit, or the purchase of certain other articles not included therein, but which are

allowed him, if desired, he must rely upon his institutional earnings.

**Medical Treatment.**

Under ordinary circumstances, prisoners desiring medical treatment are required to report at the doctor's office at a certain hour in the morning; but in case of serious illness, may call for the physician at any time. The assistant physician makes a daily tour of the various institutional departments, conferring with such inmates as may desire medical service, and if it is considered necessary, placing their names upon a list which he afterward delivers to the senior physician who, the next morning, summons these prisoners to his office for advice, or treatment as the case may require. Applicants for treatment may be transferred to the institutional hospital, or, if found to be shamming, required to return to their duties, the physician in charge making such disposition of the various cases as in his judgment may appear necessary. A prisoner's account is debited with a small charge for each occasion of medical service.



PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE



**Fines Imposed.**

In addition to being charged for food, lodging, clothing, and medical attendance, prisoners' accounts are debited with amounts which represent fines, imposed for the violation of institutional rules, or for failure to pass school examinations. These fines vary in amount and are designed to be commensurate, as nearly as may be, with the offense committed, or the failure incurred. Should the sum total of a prisoner's fines reach a certain amount during any given month, that month, in so far as it concerns him, is regarded as imperfect and cannot be numbered among those entitling him to consideration for promotion in grade and eventual parole. A month during which institutional fines do not amount to the certain sum above referred to, counts for him as a perfect month and an aid in earning grade promotion and parole.

When it is considered necessary that a fine be imposed, the method followed requires that a certain printed form be filled in and handed to the disciplinary officer of the institution, reciting the

offense or failure requiring the fine, giving the name of the prisoner in question, and bearing the signature of the supervising officer by whom the fine is recommended. The printed forms are of two kinds, termed respectively, *first* and *second class reports*, according to the nature of the cause for their issuance. The disciplinary officer, upon receiving one of these forms, properly filled in, proceeds to investigate the matter in order to be able to decide as to whether or not the fine is just and should stand against the prisoner's account; his decisions, of course are at all times subject to revision by the general superintendent. Fines may be imposed, based upon reports issued by any citizen officer having the supervision of prisoners.

**Badge of Honor.**

Each prisoner, maintaining a perfect institutional record since his admission to the reformatory, is decorated, upon his promotion to the first or highest grade, with a small, metal Maltese cross. This cross is affixed to the collar of his jacket and is a badge of honor, to be retained only by continuing

the perfect record which has earned it. Once forfeited, the badge of honor cannot be regained by subsequent good record.

#### **Inmates' Conduct Ledger.**

As may be seen from the above, an indeterminate sentenced prisoner's release upon parole may be either hastened, retarded, or prevented by his conduct and personal effort, and the quality of these is shown by the conduct ledger, a page of which is headed with his name and devoted to his record while an inmate of the reformatory. A glance at this ledger will at any time acquaint the management with a prisoner's status as regards *demeanor*, *trades school* work, and *school of letters* work, the three departments or branches into which the reformatory system is divided. Here are entered all school examination markings, and where failures occur, the amount of fines imposed for same; likewise a record of all fines incurred by infractions of institutional discipline, together with the nature of the offense for which each fine is exacted.

#### **Inmates' Daily Routine.**

With the exceptions hereinafter noted, the various tasks and exercises occupying the reformatory day, are apportioned in the following manner:

During the morning hours, until about ten o'clock, a large number of the prisoners are occupied in cleaning the rooms and corridors, repairing buildings, apparatus, etc., while others, including all new arrivals are being drilled in military exercises. There is also at this time in the institutional gymnasium, a class in physical culture composed of prisoners thus assigned by the physician as being in especial need of gymnastic exercise and other treatment here given. A little after ten o'clock, general military exercises begin and these occupy the remainder of the morning and are participated in by the major portion of the population.

The prisoners dine at noon. The first part of the afternoon is devoted to the trades school, whose session lasts until about half-past three; from there the prisoners pass directly to their various classes



A GROUP OF REFORMATORY OFFICERS





in the school of letters and receive instruction until five o'clock, p. m., when their labors for the day are concluded. After a half-hour for supper the prisoners retire to their rooms to rest, read, or study until their bed-time, at half-past nine.

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday form an exception to the above schedule, the respective programmes for these days being as follows:

On Wednesday morning occurs the usual routine, with the addition of the semi-weekly session of the respective classes of stenography, and clothing-cutting, and the elimination of the morning military exercises. On Wednesday afternoon there is no session of the school of letters, nor of the trades school; there is however, a class in mechanical drawing occupying the first part of the afternoon, in which are enrolled most of the trades school pupils. The military exercises and the dress parade occupy the remainder of the day.

There is no change in the institutional routine on Friday except that during the morning is held

a session of the classes in stenography and clothing-cutting.

On Saturday morning the usual routine obtains with the exception that all prisoners are required to bathe, and there are no military exercises. In the afternoon there is no session of the school of letters, nor of the trades school; the entire time being occupied in military exercises, which conclude with a dress parade beginning at a quarter to four.

The visiting Roman Catholic and Jewish chaplains conduct their respective religious services on Sunday morning and there are also held class sessions in ethics and history. In the morning occurs also the general Protestant religious service including a sermon by the chaplain.

#### **The School of Letters.**

A citizen instructor called the school director has charge of the department of the school of letters. Prisoners, upon their reception at the institution, are interviewed by the school director and assigned to the particular grade of the school

for which, in his judgment, they are best qualified by natural intelligence or previous educational advantages.

The school director is assisted in his work by the chaplain, and by visiting lecturers; he has also an efficient corps of inmate teachers by whom, under his direction, a considerable portion of the instruction and routine work of the school is performed.

The school director visits all class sessions, for purposes of criticism and suggestion, and also conducts a semi-weekly normal class composed of all of his inmate instructors, at which methods of teaching are rehearsed, and plans for improvement considered.

The subjects taught in the school of letters are: arithmetic, language, history, nature studies, ethics, sociology, and literature.

The classes in history, nature studies, ethics, sociology, and literature are instructed personally by the school director, the chaplain, and visiting lecturers.

The classes in arithmetic, and language are divided into eleven different grades each of which has its inmate instructor who, subject to the school director, has entire charge of and personally conducts its class sessions.

As has been previously shown, there are five school of letters days in each week, including Sunday. The school classes are apportioned as follows:

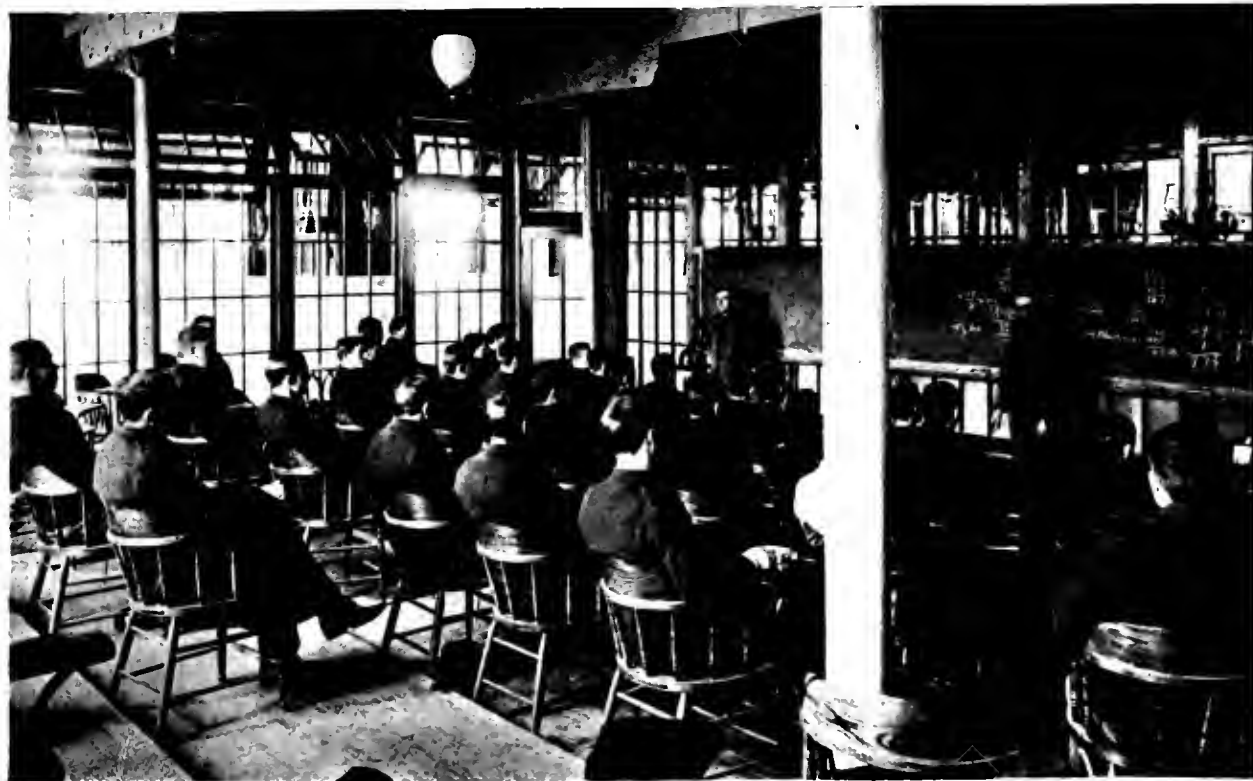
<i>Monday</i>	Arithmetic	American History
<i>Tuesday</i>	Arithmetic	Sociology
<i>Thursday</i>	Language	American History
<i>Friday</i>	Language	Literature
<i>Sunday</i>	Ethics	Nature Studies.

#### **Courses of Study.**

##### **Arithmetic.**

The course of study in arithmetic is arranged practically as follows:

There are eleven groups, or grades. The work in each grade consists of a four months' course of study, examinations occurring monthly. At the conclusion of the course, the regular monthly



A CLASS ROOM IN THE SCHOOL OF LETTERS  
(Thirty-two of These Class Rooms



examination includes a review of the four months' work just completed and is the final one for the course, determining the pupil's fitness to advance from the grade in question to the next higher.

The initial (eleventh) grade is made very easy for the pupil and is intended to prepare more than usually ignorant prisoners to enter the regularly classified lowest (tenth) grade, from which they may advance from grade to grade until they arrive at the first, or highest, and when the final examination in this grade is successfully passed, they graduate, so far as the school of letters is concerned, from the study of arithmetic.

The following is a brief synopsis of the work in the different grades, commencing with the preparatory, or eleventh and progressing to the highest, or first grade:

*Preparatory, or Eleventh Grade.*

*First Month:*

Elementary work in reading and writing

numbers — practical examples in mental arithmetic — attention lessons — drill from arithmetic chart.

*Second Month:*

Essentially, a continuation of the work of the first month with harder examples and more rapid drill with chart and blackboard.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month and introducing the use of arithmetical signs — very simple work in adding and subtracting numbers — continued drill with chart.

*Fourth Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month with the introduction of the multiplication table as far as six, and very simple concrete examples in multiplication, also mental drill in finding the fractional parts of an integer, as, one-third of nine; one-fourth of twenty, etc.

*Tenth Grade.*

*First Month:*

Work in preparatory grade reviewed and

continued — simple concrete examples in addition, subtraction, and multiplication — the multiplication tables — table of United States money.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month.

*Third Month;*

Continuation of work of preceding month, with the introduction of harder examples.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of tenth grade work.

*Ninth Grade.*

*First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade, and introducing the arbitrary rule for the use of the decimal point to separate dollars and cents—concrete examples involving operations with the terms: dollar, pint, quart — United States money, etc.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing harder examples in addition, subtraction

and multiplication — more difficult examples in mental arithmetic.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, with the introduction of simple examples in Roman notation, using numbers not greater than one hundred.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Ninth Grade work.

*Eighth Grade.*

*First Month:*

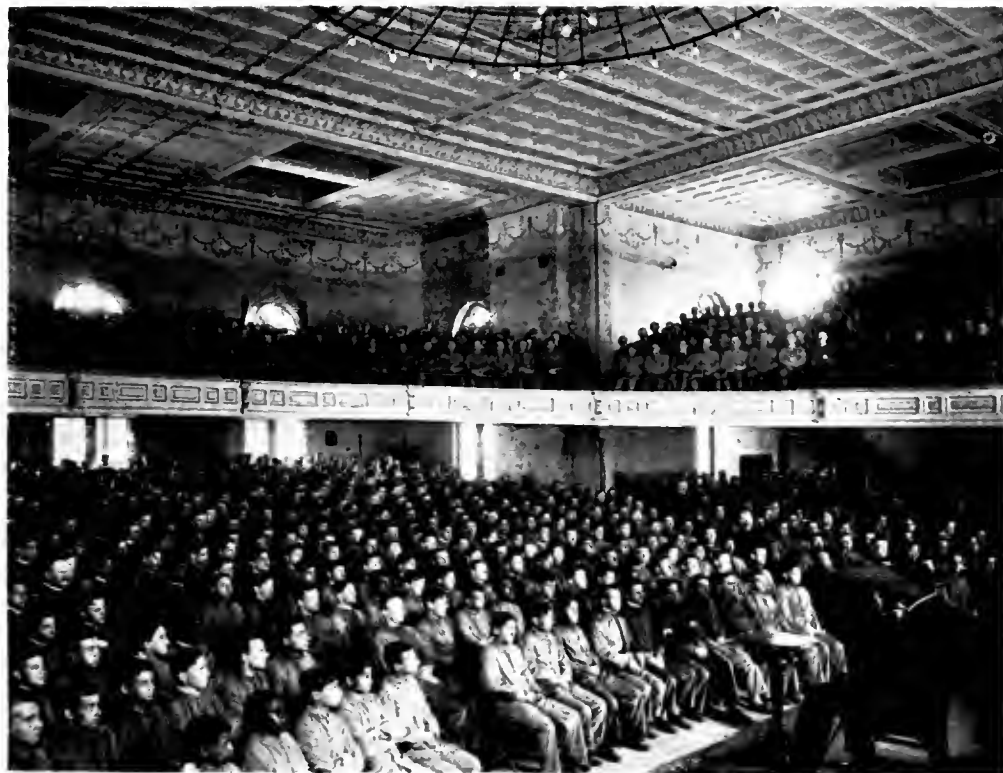
Continuation of work of preceding grade, introducing the process of division, and mental drill with the aim of teaching to draw inferences, and to reason.

*Second Month:*

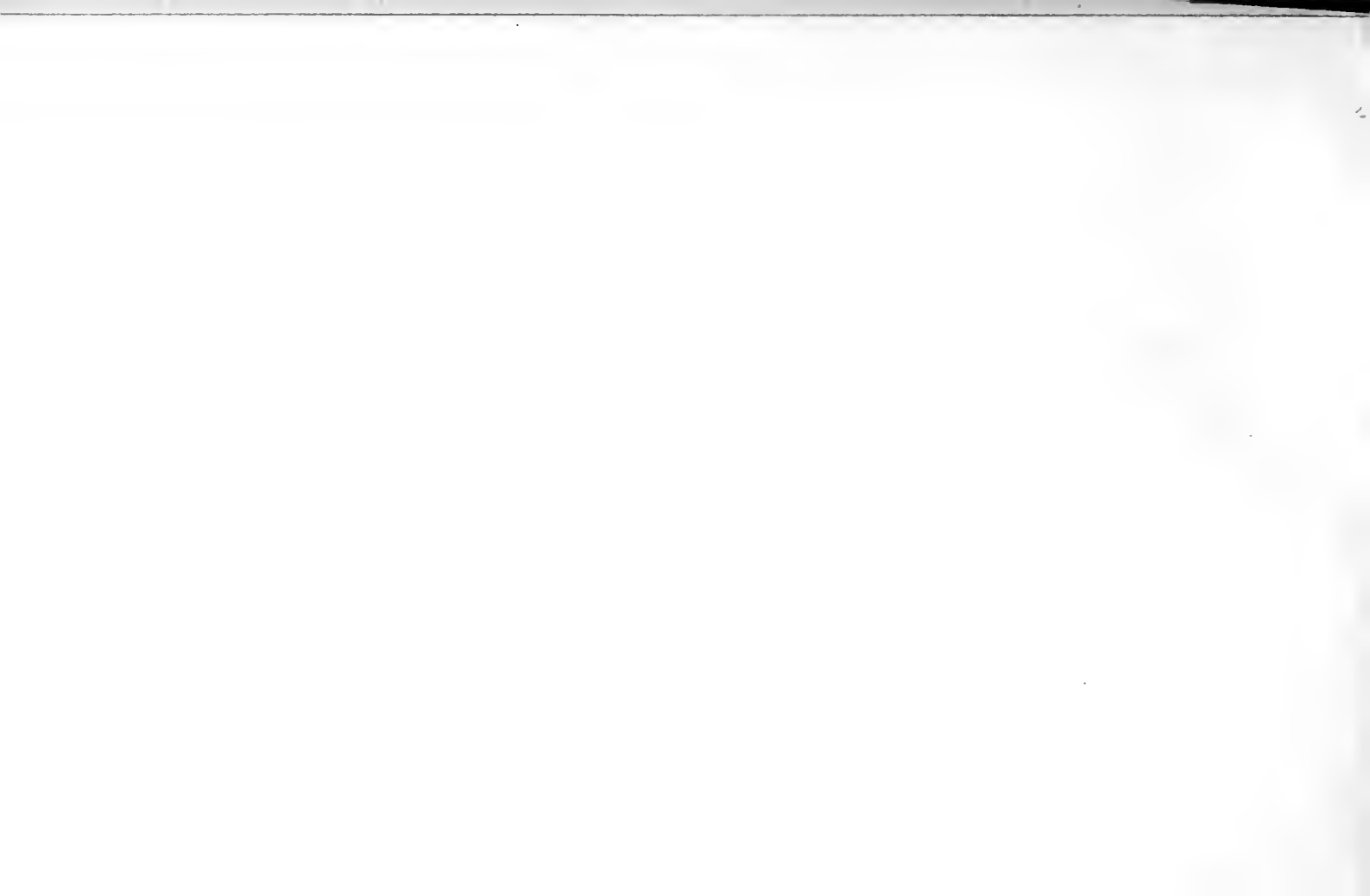
Continuation of work of preceding month — examples in division where divisor contains not more than two figures.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month,



THE AUDITORIUM AND CHAPEL





introducing examples in division where divisor contains not more than three figures.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Eighth Grade work.

*Seventh Grade.*

*First Month:*

Introducing and developing the idea of a fraction as an equal part of a unit — common fraction — numerator — denominator — proper and improper fractions — mixed numbers — changing to higher and lower terms, with mental drill in same.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing the addition and subtraction of fractions, with practical examples, such as would be likely to occur in trades school work.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, combining the processes of addition and subtraction of fractions.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Seventh Grade work.

*Sixth Grade.*

*First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade, and introducing the process of multiplication of fractions — mental drill with fractions.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing the process of division of fractions — also the process of cancellation in connection with multiplication of fractions — examples involving fractions and including conditions likely to occur in the trades school.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — examples in division of fractions.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Sixth Grade work.

*Fifth Grade.**First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade and review of entire subject of common fractions — introduction of the subject of denominate numbers — table of linear measure, and examples involving use of this table and including use of both integers and fractions.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, with the addition of tables in liquid and dry measure.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, with the addition of tables in avoirdupois weight.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Fifth Grade work, with the addition of tables in time, and counting.

*Fourth Grade.**First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade and the

subject of decimal fractions introduced — notation and numeration of decimal fractions — decimal fractions changed to decimals — dissimilar decimal fractions, to similar — common fractions changed to decimal fractions, and vice versa — addition and subtraction of decimals — drill in finding the aliquot parts of one hundred.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing multiplication of decimals.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, with introduction of division of decimals.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Fourth Grade work.

*Third Grade.**First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade, introducing the subject of accounts and bills — review of addition, subtraction and multiplication of decimals.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — examples showing practical application of decimals — explanation of the application of decimals to percentage.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — examples showing the application of division of decimal fractions, and common fractions.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Third Grade work.

*Second Grade.**First Month:*

Thorough review of subjects of common and decimal fractions — introduction of table of board measure — practical examples in linear measure involving the use of common and decimal fractions.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing table in square measure — practical examples including measurements in carpeting, plastering, land measure, etc.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month, introducing table of cubic measure — practical examples involving measurements in stone work, cubic contents of bins, cisterns, etc.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Second Grade work.

*First Grade.**First Month:*

A thorough review of the subject of decimal fractions — introduction of subjects of percentage, profit and loss, and commission.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of the work of the preceding month, and introducing the subjects of commercial discount, insurance, and principles of interest.

*Third Month:*

Introduction of the subjects of interest, discount, and promissory notes.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of First Grade work.

exercises calculated to develop the faculty of imagination — spelling and dictation.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — proper and common names — letter writing.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — the use of abbreviations explained — action-words in present and past tense explained.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of work of Fourth Grade, Primary.

*Third Grade, Primary.*

*First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grade — quotations of not less than three lines, from standard authors, learned each day — spelling and dictation.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of previous month — exercises from language book.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of Third Grade, Primary.

*Second Grade, Primary.*

*First Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding grades — drill in the use of the different forms of action-words — the subject of synonyms introduced — derivation words — spelling and dictation.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — uses of quotation marks explained — practice in writing sentences, stories, letters, etc., — new words in each lesson.

*Fourth Month:*

Review of work of Second Grade, Primary.

*First Grade, Primary.**First Month:*

Review of work of preceding grades — exercises in the use of possessives and plurals — instructions as to proper forms for writing advertisements, notices, of situations wanted, articles, found, or lost, etc., — spelling and dictation.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month—how to write checks — promissory notes.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month—how to properly write dispatches to be sent by telegraph — how to write a letter ordering books, periodicals, etc.,

*Fourth Month:*

Review of work of First Grade, Primary.

*Second Grade, Intermediate.**First Month:*

Discussions—choice extracts of prose and poetry discussed and re-written by pupils, using individual forms of expression—accuracy and fluency cultivated — spelling and dictation.

*Second Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month — introduction of the subject of paraphrasing—special attention given to finishing the subject of letter writing—accuracy, neatness, care in punctuation — perfect familiarity required with all kinds of letter writing.

*Third Month:*

Continuation of work of preceding month.

*Fourth Month:*

Thorough review of work of Second Grade Intermediate.

*First Grade, Intermediate.*

Essay work — accuracy — style — fluency — originality — biography — criticism — debate — study of choice extracts from works of different authors — discussions — spelling and dictation.

---

**Classes in American History, Nature Studies,  
Ethics, Sociology, Literature.**

In the above named classes, instruction is imparted by means of lectures delivered, as before

stated, by the school director, the chaplain and visiting teachers.

Each class is convened in one group. As aids to memory, printed memoranda, termed outlines, are issued to the pupils; these contain the salient points upon which the lectures are based. Examinations are held periodically, as in the other school of letters classes. The course of study in each of these classes, is connected, but of somewhat indefinite length; any subject being concluded and another introduced, at the option of the instructor.

#### **The Trades School.**

The department of the trades school is presided over by a citizen officer entitled the trades school director. While his duties are in the main, supervisory, he personally conducts a class in mechanical drawing, numbering practically all the trades school pupils.

Each trades class is in charge of a citizen instructor who is assisted by a more or less extensive corps of inmate instructors, chosen from the most advanced pupils, preferably graduates of the class.

At the present time twenty-nine trades, as enumerated in the following list, are taught in the trades school:

Barber	Moulder
Bookbinder	Paint-mixer
Brass-smith	Plasterer
Bricklayer	Plumber
Cabinet-maker	Printer
Carpenter	Shoemaker
Clothing cutter	Sign-painter
Electrician	Steam-fitter
Frescoer	{ Stenographer and
Hard-wood finisher	
Horseshoer	{ Typewriter
House-painter	
Iron-forged	Stone-cutter
Machine-wood-worker	Stone-mason
Machinist	Tailor
	Tinsmith
	Upholsterer

In the reformatory system of trades teaching, the minimum time in which a trade may be learned is designated as a certain number of hours; this total number of hours is divided into what may be termed examination periods. When the pupil works at his trade for the specified number of



Institutional Enclosure Trades School Avenue





hours allotted to the period in which he may be employed, he is examined by the citizen instructor in regard to the quality of his work which, if it merits a marking of 75 per cent. or higher, entitles him to be advanced to the next higher period, or outline as it is termed. When he has successively passed all the outlines prescribed in the schedule of the trade at which he is employed he graduates from the class and thereafter, until his release from the institution, may be employed at making repairs, constructing new work, or if necessary, assigned as an assistant instructor in the class from which he has graduated. To aid the reader in obtaining an idea of the amount of knowledge required in order to pass from outline to outline of a trade, descriptions of the outlines embodied in the respective trades of bricklaying, and stenography and typewriting, follow in the order named:

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**Bricklaying.**

Schedule of outlines which it is required to pass in order to graduate from the trade of bricklaying.

The total number of hours during which a

pupil must work at this trade before he can graduate is seven hundred and twelve, divided into thirty-five outlines varying in length from eight to thirty hours respectively.

*Outline No. 1.*

*Length of Outline*.....8 hours.

Character of Work—Practice in use of trowel and mortar board — properly placing mortar on board, then spreading it upon the wall.

*Outline No. 2.*

*Length of Outline*.....14 hours.

Character of Work—Practice in laying an 8-inch wall, without the use of plumb and line, spreading mortar for three bricks at a time, and striking joints.

*Outline No. 3.*

*Length of Outline*.....14 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 2.

*Outline No. 4.*

*Length of Outline*.....24 hours.

Character of Work—Building square piers and chimneys, striking joints.

*Outline No. 5.*

*Length of Outline*.....24 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 4.

*Outline No. 6.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—Building an 8-inch wall, using plumb and line; also a chimney fire-place; learning to turn corners and form pilasters.

*Outline No. 7.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 6.

*Outline No. 8.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—Building 12-inch wall using plumb and line; also fire-place flues; practice in turning corners and building pilasters.

*Outline No. 9.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 8.

*Outline No. 10.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—Building 12-inch, plain wall, spreading mortar for three bricks; practice in turning corners, building pilasters, and forming projections between pilasters to face of same.

*Outline No. 11.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 10.

*Outline No. 12.*

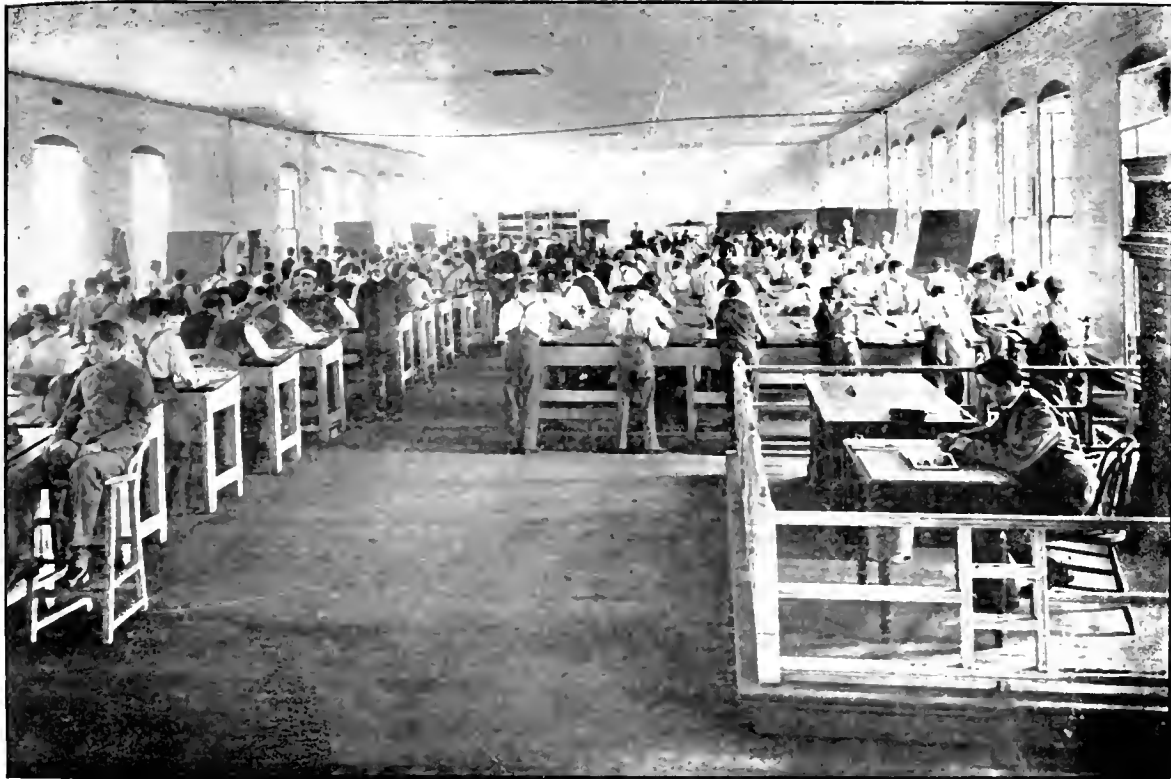
*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—Building 16-inch wall, turning corners, giving attention to placing headers, outside and inside, making a high wall without scaffold.

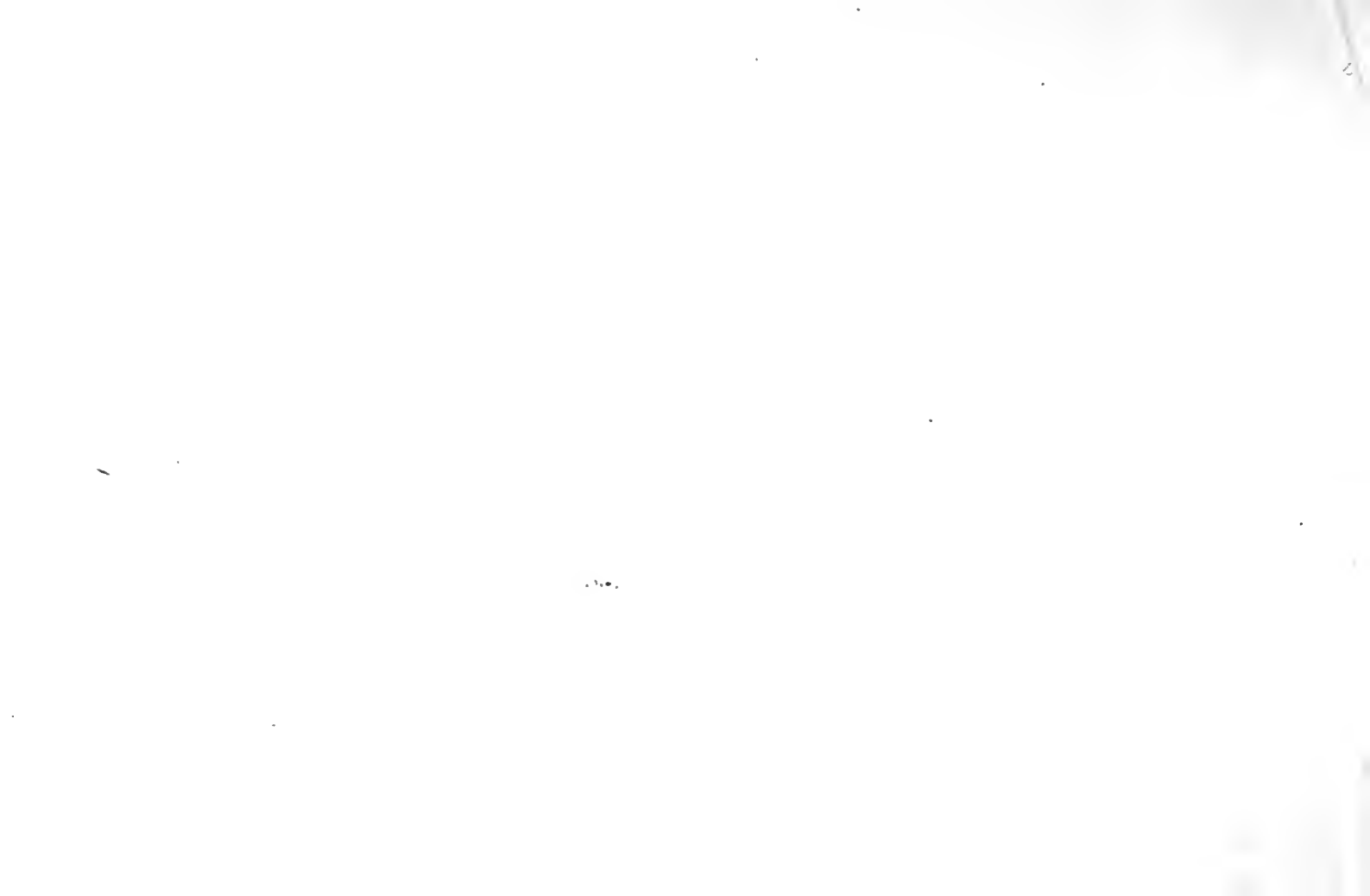
*Outline No. 13.*

*Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 12.



Trades School—Mechanical Drawing



*Outline No. 14 (A)**Length of Outline*.....16 hours.

Character of Work—Building a 16-inch plain wall, at the rate of 75 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (B)**Length of Outline*.....18 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (A) except that the rate is 100 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (C)**Length of Outline*.....18 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (B) except that the rate is 120 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (D)**Length of Outline*.....18 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (C) except that the rate is 140 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (E)**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (D) except that the rate is 160 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (F)**Length of Outline*.....24 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (E) except that the rate is 180 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 14 (G)**Length of Outline*.....28 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 14 (F) except that the rate is 200 bricks per hour.

*Outline No. 15.**Length of Outline*.....30 hours.

Character of Work—Building 16-inch wall, using "bats" for backing and filling, and placing flues in wall without projecting.

*Outline No. 16.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building semicircular arches 4-inch by 28-inch, and 12-inch by 16-inch.

*Outline No. 17.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building segmental arches, 4-inch by 8-inch and 12-inch by 16-inch.

*Outline No. 18.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building Gothic arches, 4-inch by 8-inch and 12-inch by 16-inch.

*Outline No. 19.**Length of Outline*.....26 hours.

Character of Work—Building dovetail arches, 8-inch by 12-inch.

*Outline No. 20.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building 8-inch wall, turning corners, setting door and window sills and frames, with semicircular arch over each door and window frame.

*Outline No. 21.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 20.

*Outline No. 22.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building 12-inch wall,

with corners, doors, windows, bracket cornice, and pilasters, the pilasters to be connected by semicircular arches.

*Outline No. 23.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—same as No. 22.

*Outline No. 24.**Length of Outline*.....20 hours.

Character of Work—Building 16-inch wall, with corners, windows and doors; over windows, semicircular arch outside, segmental arch inside; over doors, dovetail.

*Outline No. 25.**Length of Outline*.....22 hours.

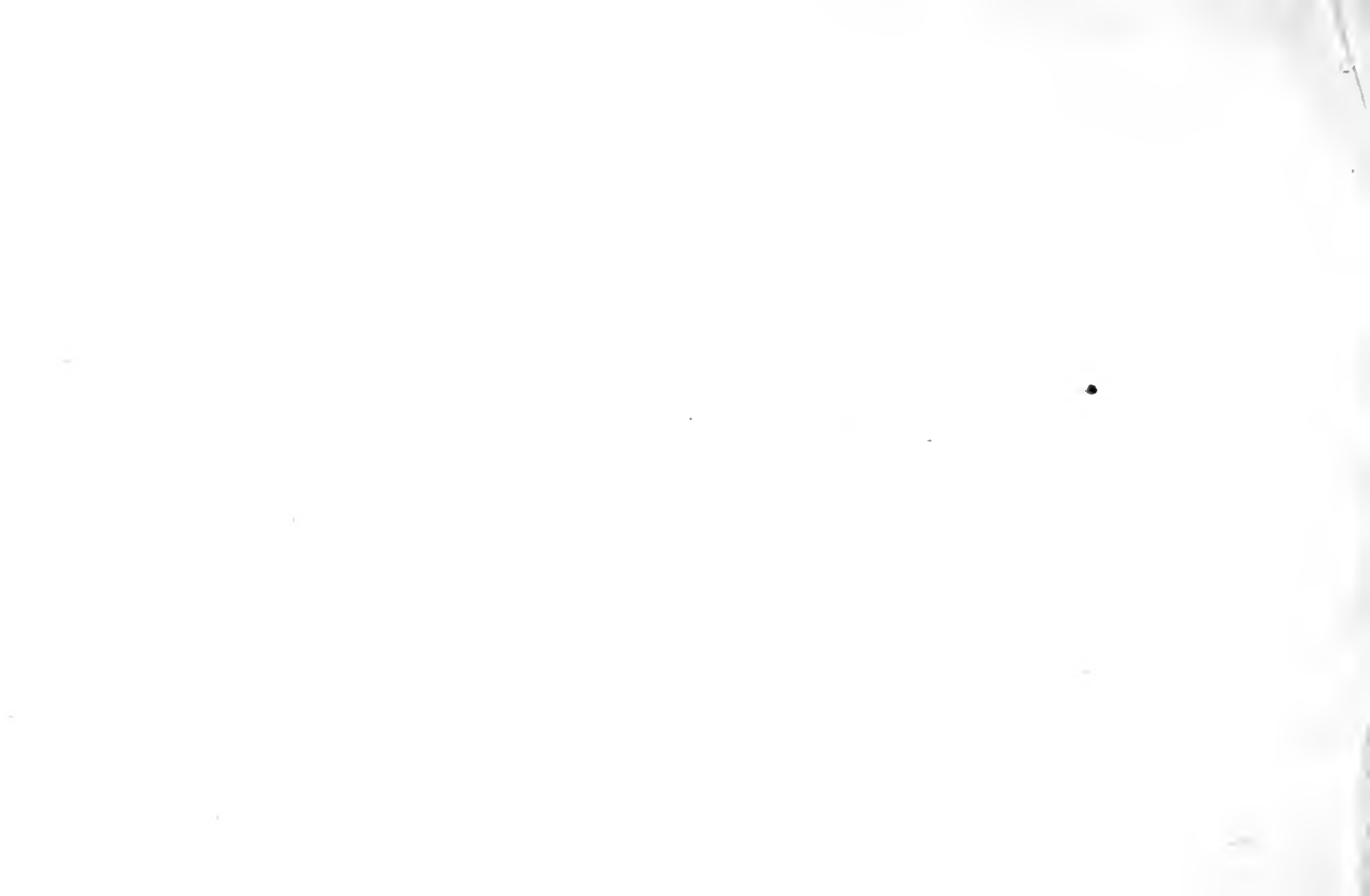
Character of Work—same as No. 24.

*Outline No. 26.**Length of Outline*.....22 hours.

Character of Work—Building gables, plain, and with windows.



Trades School Classes on Constrcution





*Outline No. 27.**Length of Outline* ..... 22 hours.

Character of Work — Building arches, gables, octagons and semi-octagons.

*Outline No. 28.**Length of Outline* ..... 22 hours.

Character of Work — Changing square to octagon.

*Outline No. 29.**Length of Outline* ..... 22 hours.

Character of Work — Battering brickwork true to battering rule.

*Outline No. 30.*

## Final Outline.

Character of Work — Building a test-piece as prescribed by the instructor.

NOTE:— All pupils before graduation must be able to lay brick, plumb, neatly, and at the rate of at least 600 in eight hours. A lesson in mixing mortar is given once each month during the course.

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**Stenography and Typewriting.**

This trade comprises two branches — the art of the stenographer and that of the typewriter. The study of stenography necessarily involves the learning of certain principles and rules and the memorizing of many written characters, as well as manual practice with the pen or pencil; while the ability to operate the typewriting machine depends mainly upon manual practice. The methods of instruction therefore necessarily differ somewhat in character, and we will consider the two subjects separately, in the order named.

**Stenography.**

In imparting instruction in stenography, it has been found necessary and desirable to deviate from the rule followed in the other trades teaching to the extent that the examinations in this trade are arranged to occur regularly once in two months, instead of at the expiration of a certain number of hours of instruction as is the general rule in trades school work.

The stenography and typewriting class numbers twenty-four pupils and has, in addition to the citizen instructor, a force of three inmate teachers. Its sessions are of two hours' duration and occur on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The following is a schedule of the various outlines of the stenography branch of the class. The prisoner-pupil is required to successfully undergo, commencing with Outline No. 1, a final examination on each of the outlines, consecutively, before he can graduate from the study of stenography, proper:

*Outline No. 1.*

*Length of Outline*.....2 months.

Character of Work — includes, in Graham's Handbook of Standard Phonography, a careful study of all printed matter found on pages 23, to 120, inclusive and the practice of all writing exercises found on pages 333, to 343, inclusive. This embraces the phonographic alphabet, certain wordsigns, the writing and memorizing of certain consonant outlines, together with practice in vocalizing consonant outlines.

*Outline No. 2.*

*Length of Outline*.....2 months.

Character of Work — includes the study of all

matter found on pages 121, to 173, inclusive, in the handbook, and the practice of all writing exercises contained in pages 344, to 357, inclusive, in the handbook; this embraces further practice in writing and vocalizing consonant outlines; also the introduction of the use of hooks, widening, etc., and the memorizing of additional wordsigns.

*Outline No. 3.*

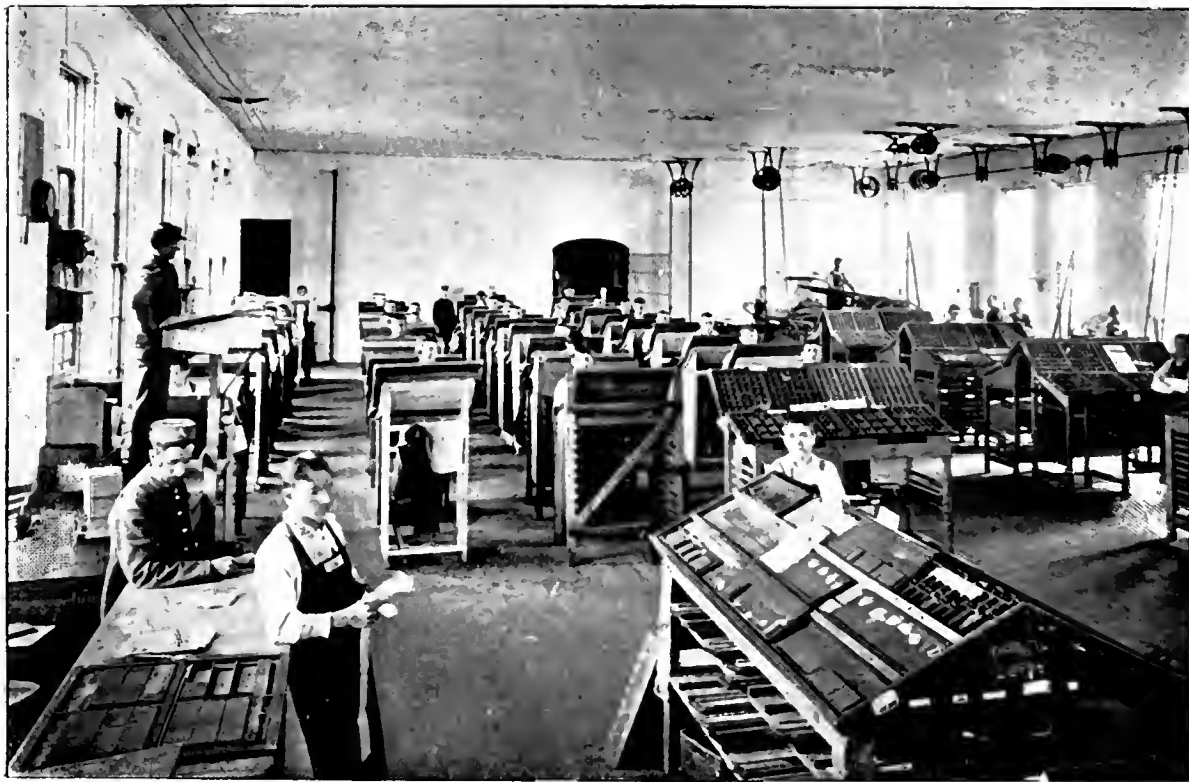
*Length of Outline*.....2 months.

Character of Work — includes the study of all matter contained on pages 174, to 250, ending with a list of all principal wordsigns, and the practice of all writing exercises, together with a thorough memorizing of all consonant outlines found in preceding writing exercises. This outline introduces the principles of halving and lengthening consonant strokes and includes a review of all preceding class work.

*Outline No. 4.*

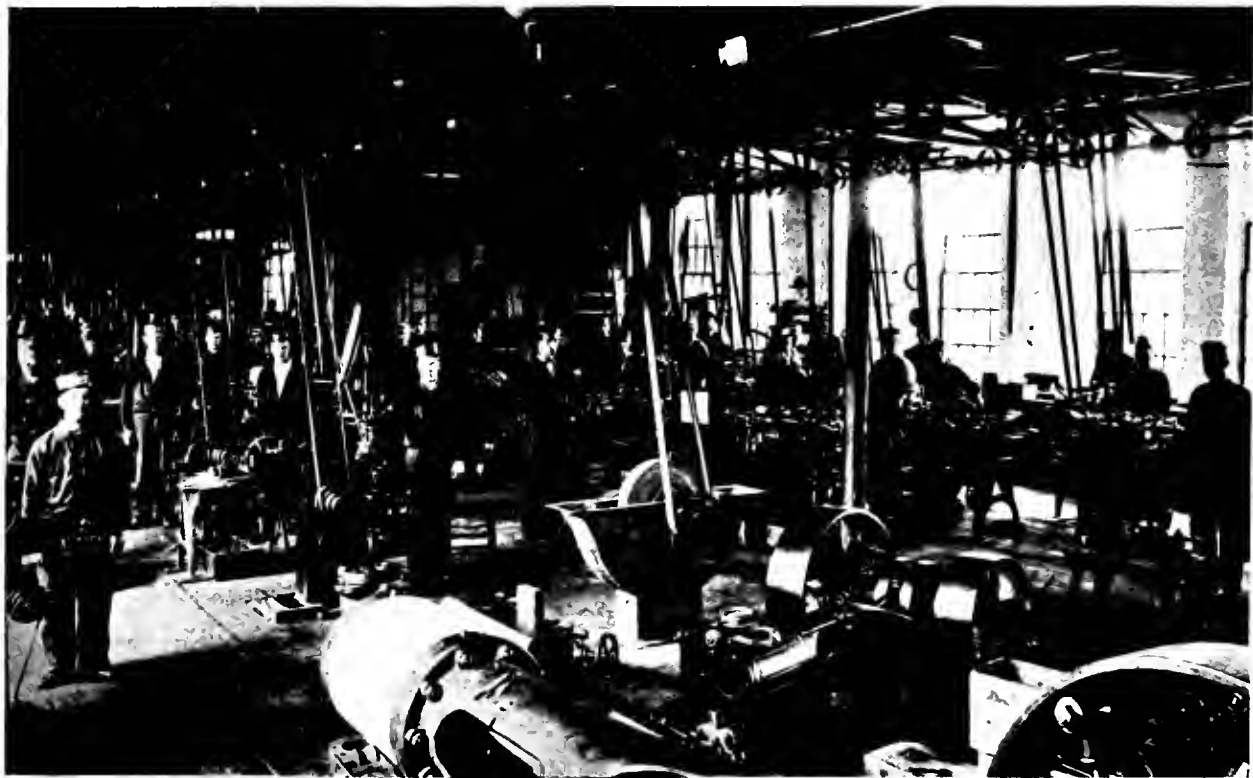
*Length of Outline*.....2 months.

Character of Work — In Outlines Nos. 1, 2,



Trades School—Printing and Bookbinding





Trades School—Machinist





Trades School—Upholstery

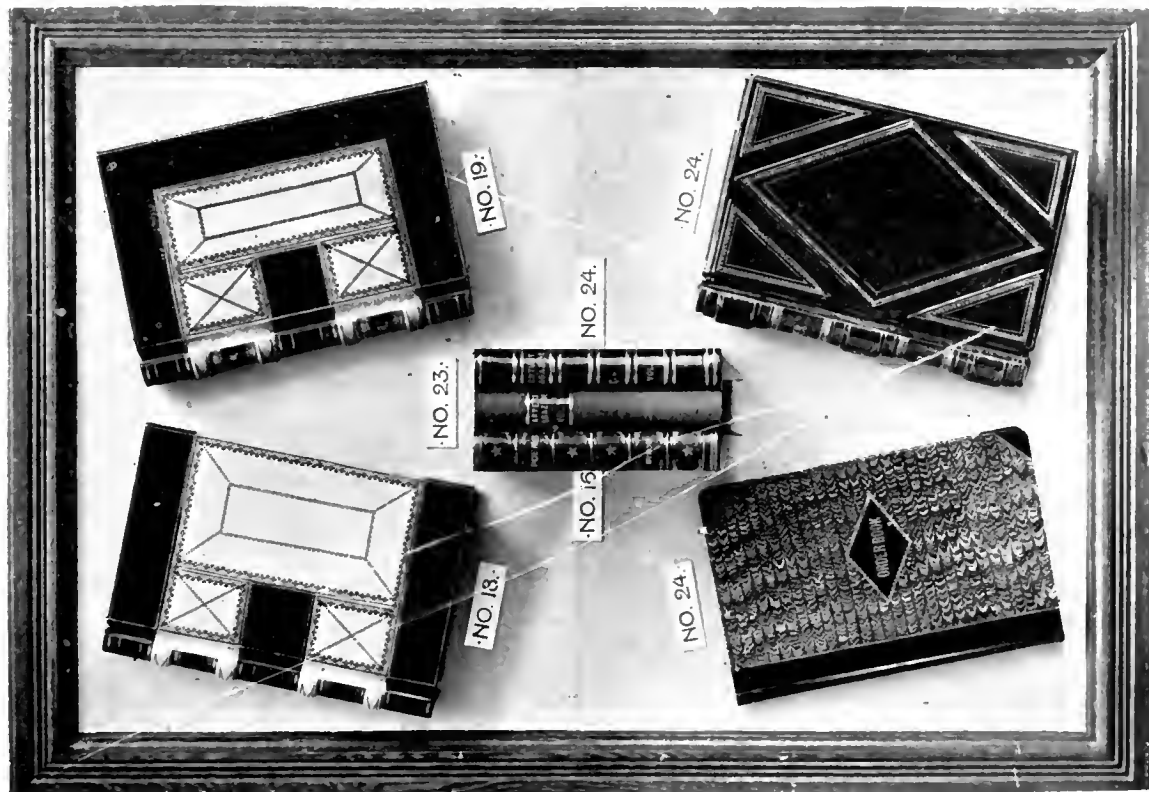






Trades School—Tailoring





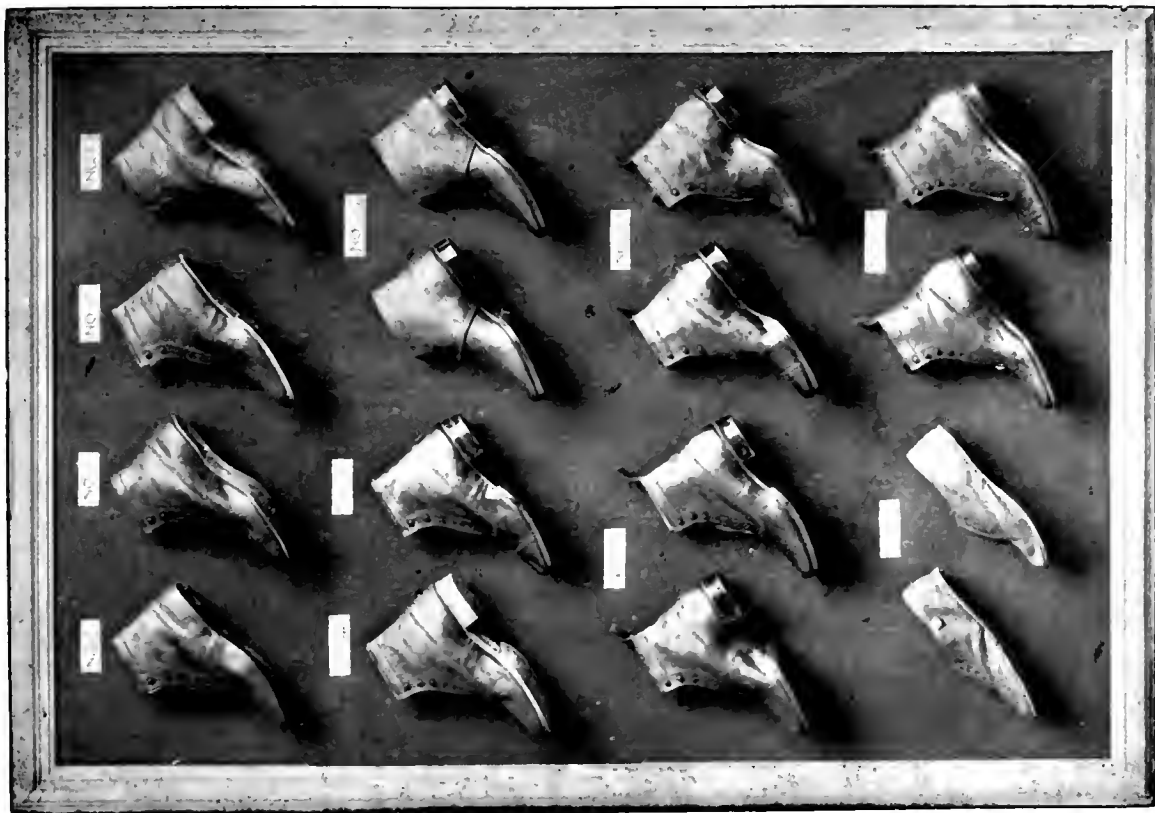
Trades School Outlines—Bookbinder





Trades School Outline-Upholster

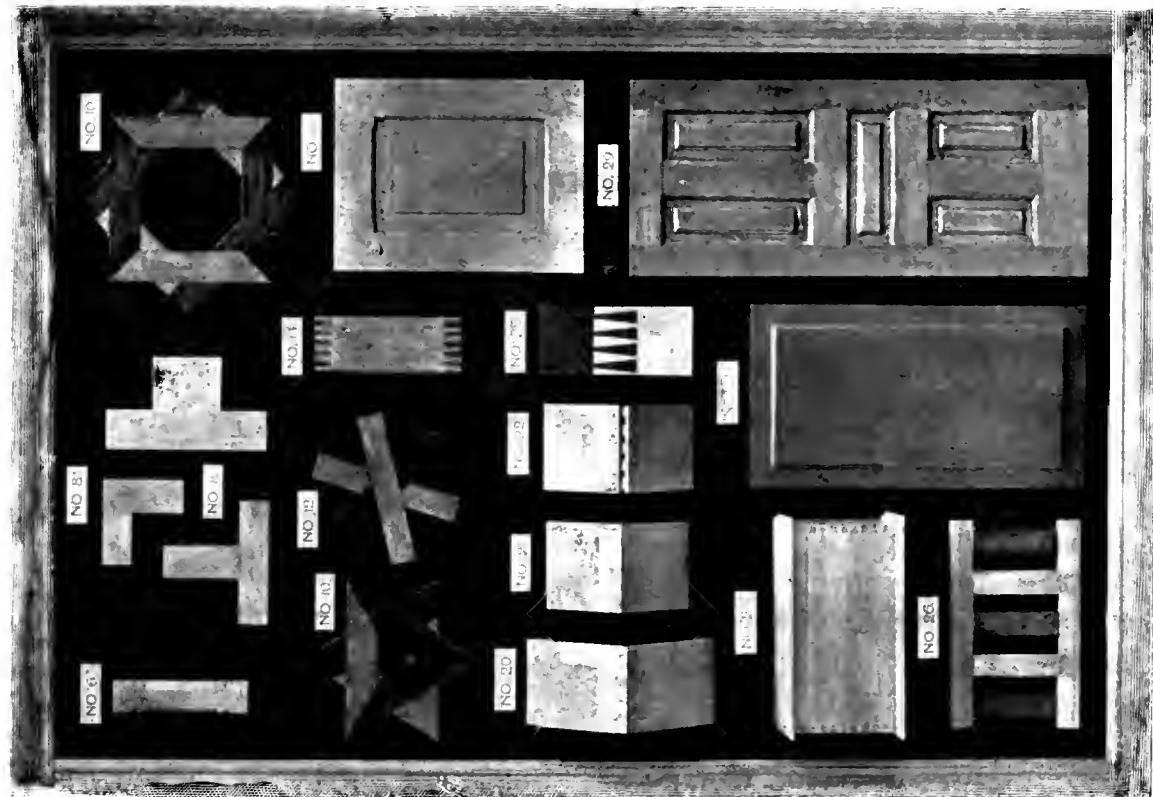




Trades School Outlines Shoemaker

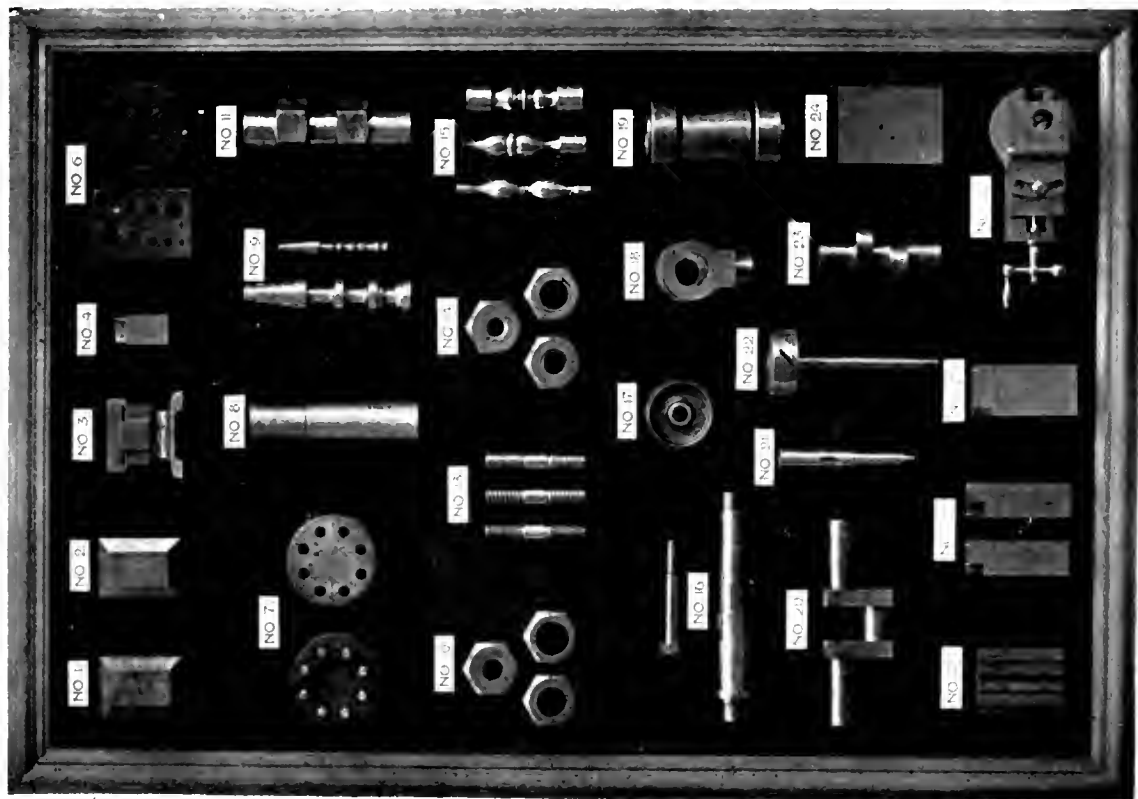






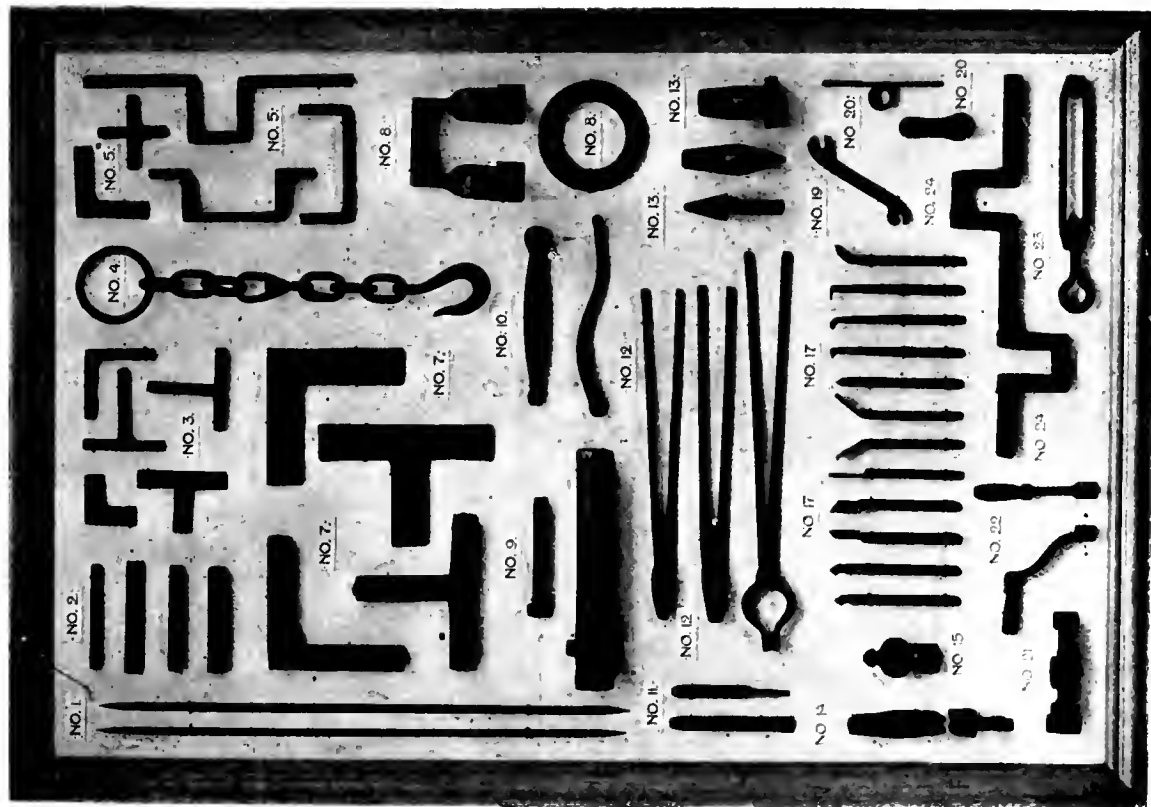
Trades School Outlines - Hard-wood Finisher





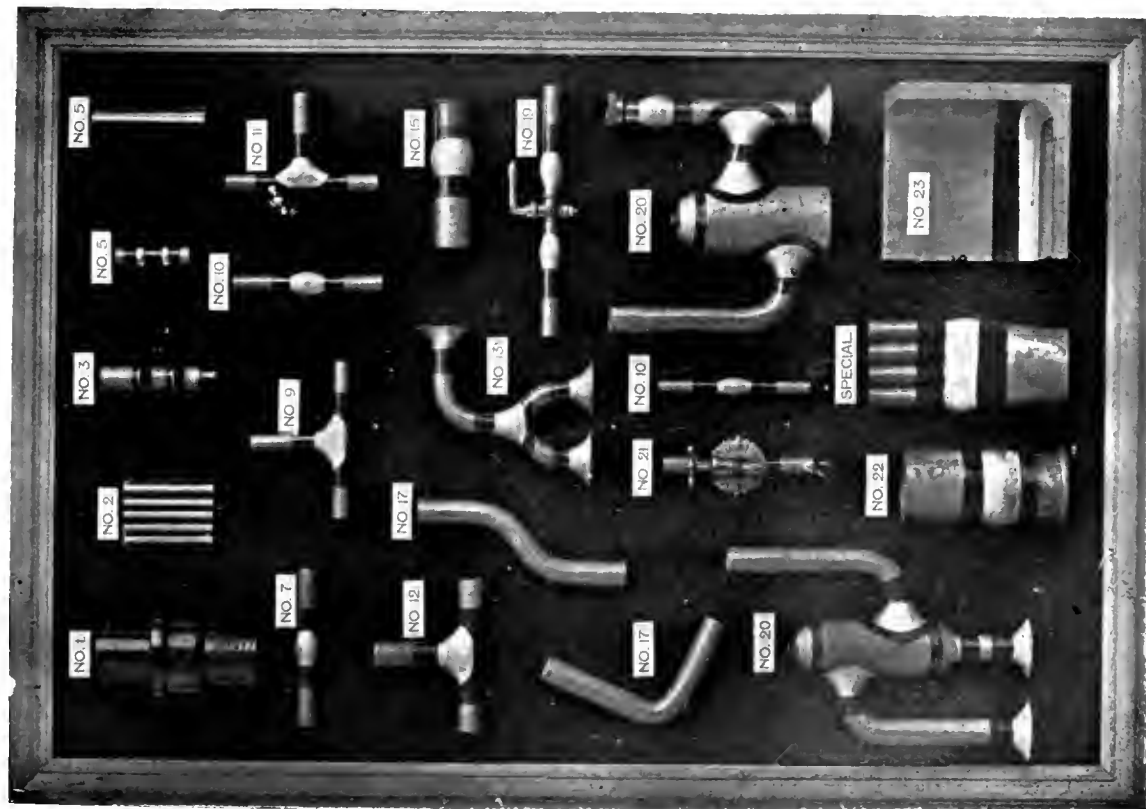
Trades School Outlines—Machinist





Trades School Outlines—Iron-forging

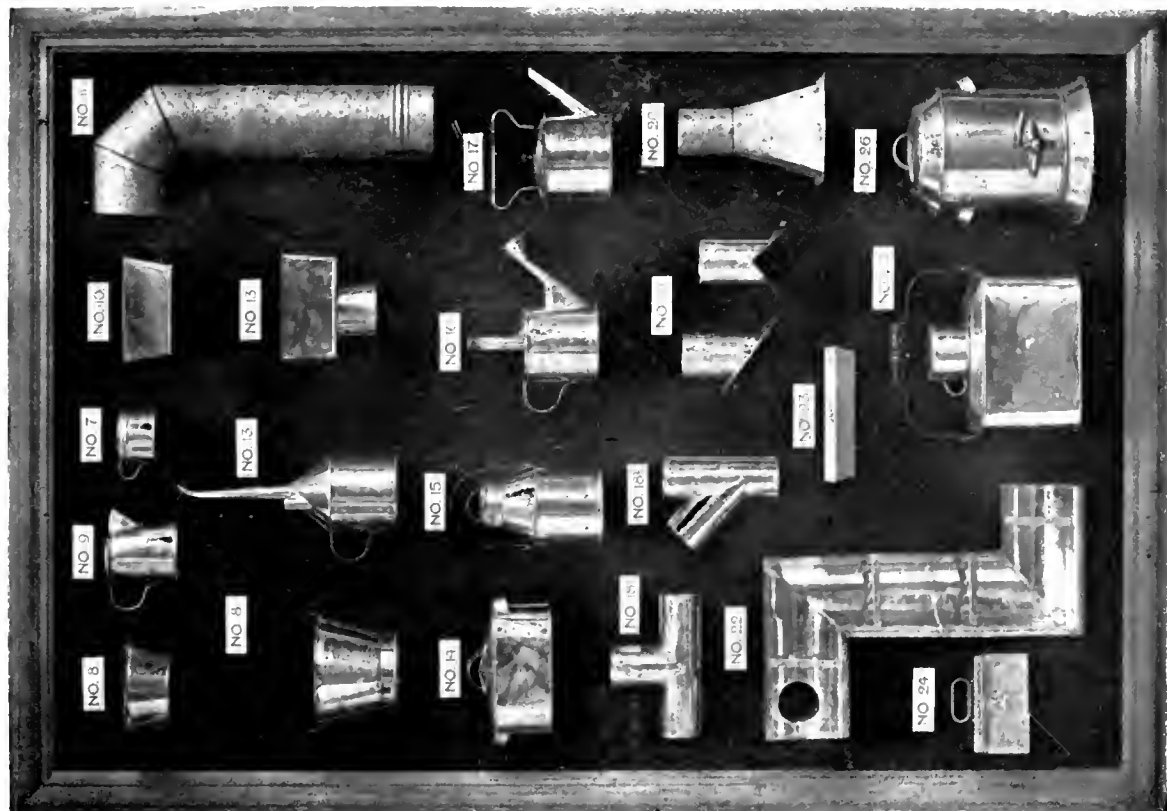




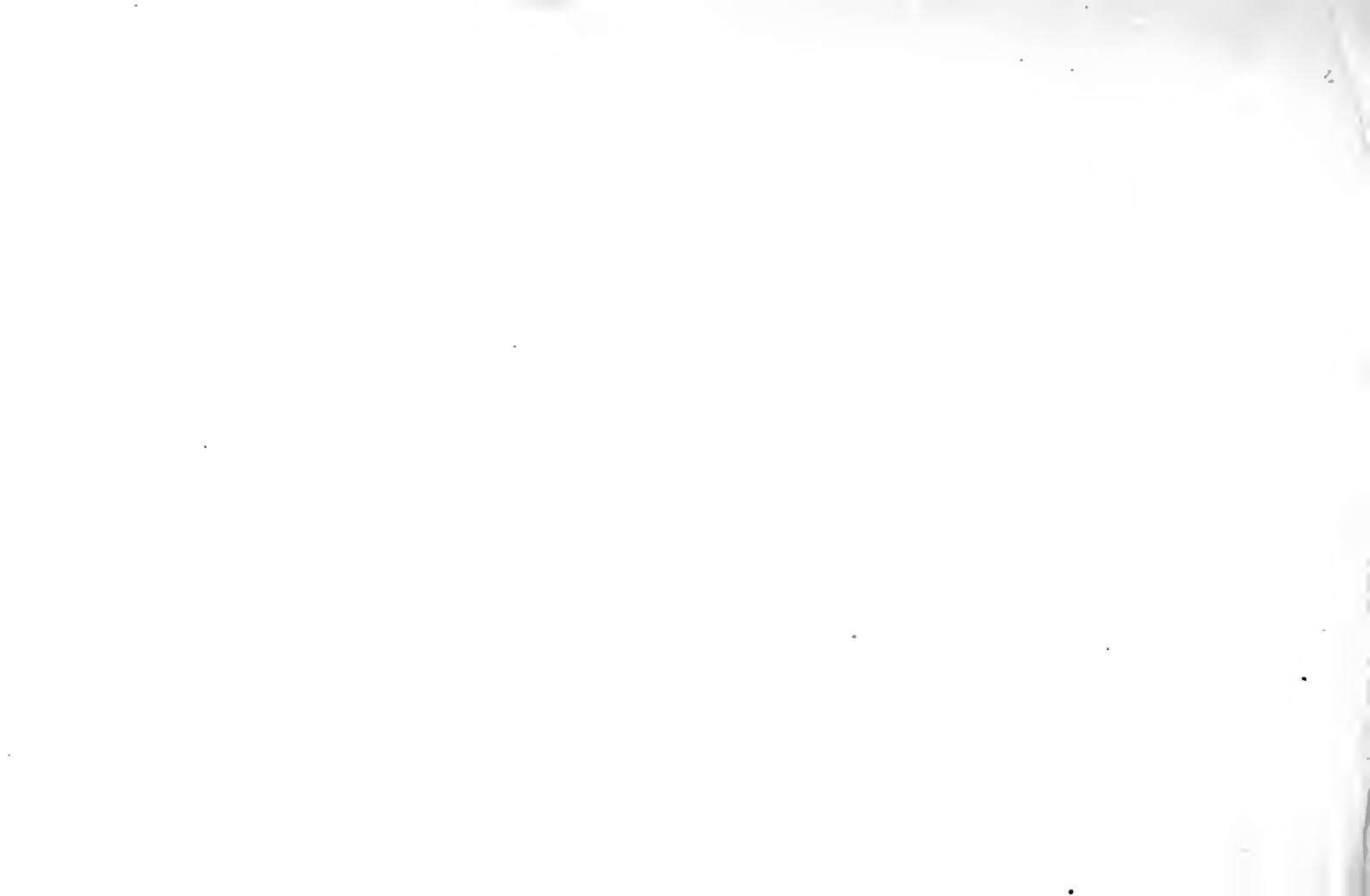
Trades School Outlines Plumber







Trades School Outlines Tinsmith



and 3, embracing six months of study and three examinations; the pupils are required to be able to write properly vocalized outlines for all words given in the writing exercises contained in the Handbook of Standard Phonography. After having been successful in the test examinations of the preceding outlines, pupils in the 4th outline receive slow dictation, the examination at the close of the outline requiring a speed of 30 words per minute for a period of five minutes; the dictation to consist of common business letters, the stenographic notes to be transcribed in longhand during the examination period. In this outline care is exercised that all outlines shall be correctly written and that pupils shall be able to vocally recite the technical outline of any word dictated.

*Outline No. 5.*

Character of Work — same as preceding outline except that a final speed of 50 words per minute on current newspaper matter is required.

*Outline No. 6.*

Character of Work — same as preceding outline except that a final speed of 80 words per minute, on business letters, is required.

*Outline No. 7.*

Graduation Outline

Character of Work — similar to preceding outline, except that a final speed of 100 words per minute on current newspaper matter is required.

**Typewriting.**

The course of instruction in typewriting is divided into thirteen groups, or outlines. The usual trades school method of examining the pupil after he has had a certain number of hours of practice, is used in this branch of the stenography and typewriting class. The outlines are scheduled as follows:

*Outline No. 1.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work — instruction is given in

regard to the care and use of the typewriting machine; easy copying exercises are given and the proper method of fingering, etc., explained. At the conclusion of the outline, the examination is held upon the accuracy of the work done in copying the exercise upon the examination sheet.

*Outline No. 2.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—graded copying exercises similar to No. 1, but containing more difficult words; examination as in No. 1.

*Outline No. 3.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—graded copying exercises similar to No. 2, but containing single sentences and quotations; examination as in preceding outline.

*Outline No. 4.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—copying exercises containing paragraphs—also short business phrases making necessary the use of the various marks of

punctuation; examination as in preceding outline.

*Outline No. 5.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—the pupil practices an exercise containing 100 words and embodying the form of a business letter; examination at conclusion of outline consists in the instructor dictating this exercise to the pupil at a speed of 25 words per minute.

*Outline No. 6.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—exercises embodying the forms of two business letters of about 100 words each; examination at close of outline, same as in preceding outline; same rate of speed per minute required.

*Outline No. 7.*

*Length of Outline*.....6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises embodying the forms of two business letters containing approximately 100 words each; examination at close



Trades School—Stenography and Typewriting



of outline, same as in preceding outline; same rate of speed required.

*Outline No. 8.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises, embodying two business forms, containing, approximately 100 words each; examination same as in preceding outline except that speed of 30 words per minute is required.

*Outline No. 9.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises embodying two business forms containing in all, approximately 300 words; examination, same as in preceding outline; same rate of speed per minute required.

*Outline No. 10.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises, embodying the form of a will, the other in the form of verbatim court evidence; examination same as in preceding

outline except that speed of 35 words per minute is required.

*Outline No. 11.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises, one embodying an extract from the Declaration of Independence, numbering about 250 words, the other a tabulated statement in the form of a bill; examination on first mentioned exercise same as in previous outline; same rate of speed; examination on second exercise requires that it shall be accurately copied within a reasonable period of time during the examination session.

*Outline No. 12.*

*Length of Outline* . . . . . 6 hours.

Character of Work—two exercises, one embodying an extract from a speech, the other a tabulated statement; examination on former, same as in preceding outline, except that a speed of 40 words per minute is required; examination on latter requires that the exercise be accurately copied

within a reasonable period of time during the examination session.

*Outline No. 13.*

Final Outline.

*Length of Outline.....indefinite*—examination generally occurs shortly after pupil has successfully undergone examination on outline No. 6. (80 words per minute) in stenography.

Character of Work — practice in the transcription on typewriter of notes taken at previous class session; at close of outline, examination consists of the dictation of three business letters of moderate length, by the instructor, the pupil to transcribe same on the typewriter during the examination session.

Pupils receiving an examination marking of seventy-five per cent. or more, upon outline No. 7, in stenography and outline No. 13, in typewriting, graduate from the class.

During a session of the stenography and typewriting class, one-half the pupils receive instruction

in stenography while the remainder are engaged in practice upon the type-writing machine; at the next session of the class the order is reversed, so that the pupils' time is equally divided, one class session being devoted to stenography and the following to typewriter practice.

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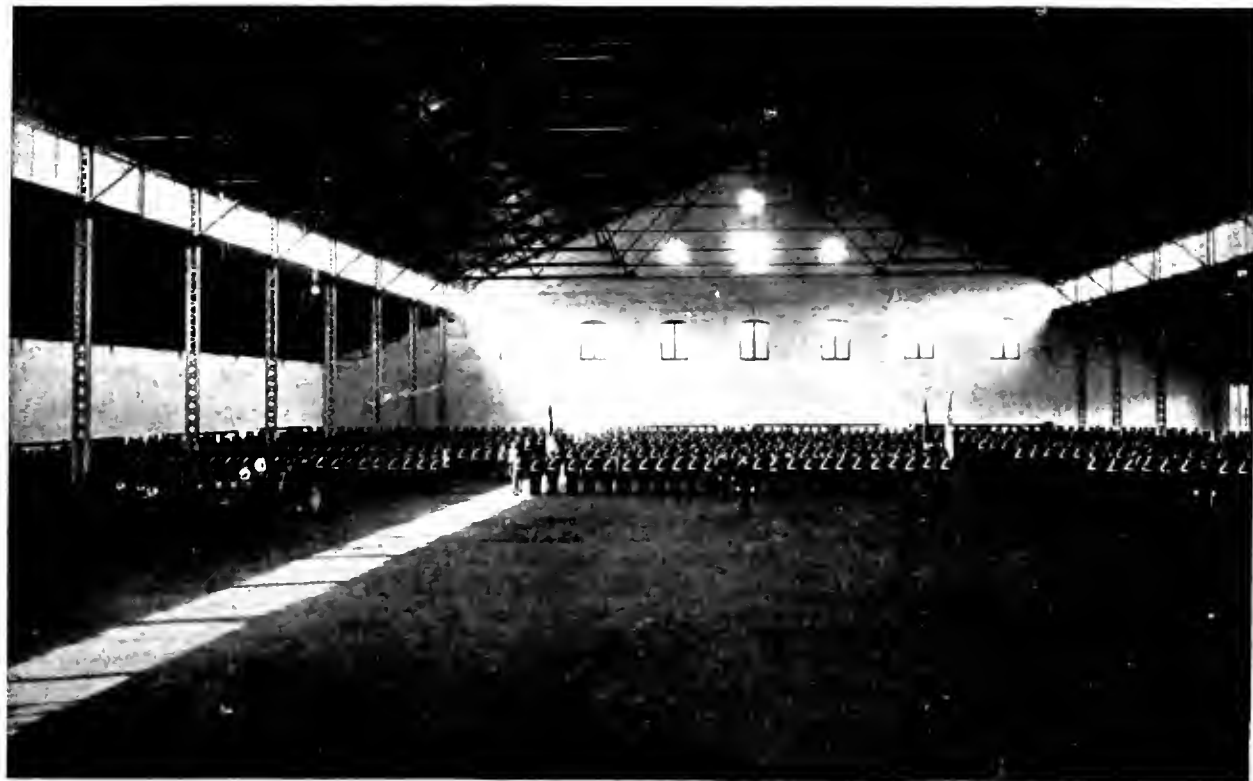
In the first part of this book there were mentioned three chief reformatory agencies; two of these, the school of letters and the trades school, have already been described; the third, which is the military organization, it is now our purpose to outline.

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**The Military Organization.**

The military department is under the supervision of a citizen officer termed the military instructor; he is the commanding officer, or colonel, of the inmate military organization known as the reformatory regiment, and is assisted in his duties by an assistant military instructor, who bears the title of lieutenant-colonel.





Military-Drill in the Armory



All prisoners, unless excused by the general superintendent upon recommendation of the physician, are required to become members of the military organization as soon as they are received in the reformatory. Practically all the prisoners in the institution are thus permitted and required to avail themselves of the advantages incident to military training.

Newly received prisoners, before they are allowed to participate in the daily regimental military exercises are given preliminary training, in the way of suitable gymnastic exercises, for the purpose of improving their physical condition and personal bearing, and in the art of handling military arms and performing other movements with the aim of qualifying them to take their places in due time, in the reformatory regiment, proper. This group of beginners in military work is institutionally termed the "awkward squad." Its numbers are continually augmented by the acquisition of new arrivals at the reformatory, and as steadily depleted by the departure of its most

proficient members who graduate from the awkward squad and are assigned to the regiment; thus, the number composing the awkward squad varies, occasionally reaching one hundred and fifty and in exceptional instances, an even greater number. The average period of time required by prisoners in graduating from the awkward squad is five weeks.

The reformatory regiment numbers approximately twelve hundred men; although of course the regimental roster is constantly subject to change on account of receiving reinforcements consisting of the graduates from the awkward squad, and losing those prisoners who, from time to time are authorized to leave the institution upon parole. The regiment is divided into four battalions, of four companies each. A citizen major is in command of each battalion and a citizen captain is in charge of each company. All officers below the rank of captain are inmates. The inmate officers include lieutenants, sergeants, battalion adjutants

and the regimental adjutant (ranking as first lieutenant).

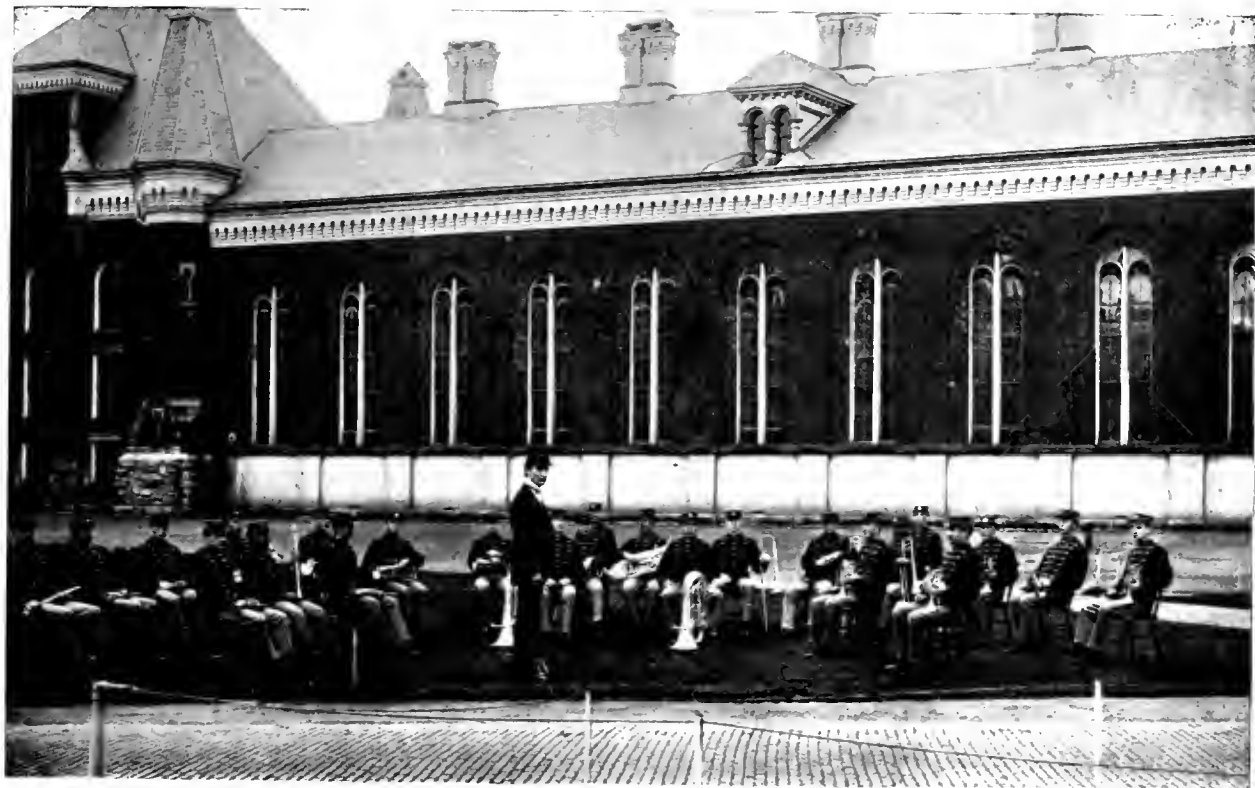
All citizen officers of the regiment are clothed in dark blue uniform coats with trousers of dark or light blue according to the wearer's rank. As in the regular army, the rank of each citizen officer is definitely denoted by his shoulder straps. A citizen officer's official uniform, as required by his rank in the reformatory regiment is considered as his regular institutional uniform, hence it is not necessary that he should make any material change in his clothing except to don his sword belt, before taking his place in the regiment at dress parade.

The inmate officers' summer uniforms are of khaki cloth, (a thin material, yellowish in color). In winter these are replaced by uniform suits of heavier, light blue cloth. The inmate officer's rank is designated by shoulder straps, or chevrons, as the case may require. His institutional uniform like that of the citizen officer is practically identical with that required by his military duty and for dress parade purposes little change is made

except that white cross belts are added and if he is a lieutenant, his sword belt is included in his equipment.

The rank and file of the regiment wear summer uniforms of khaki and winter uniforms of heavy cloth; the coats are black, the trousers gray. Their uniforms, like those of the citizen and inmate officers are not materially changed before entering the dress parade except that the regulation white cross belts are put on. However, should any certain number of inmates chance to be engaged in labor at which there is a likelihood of their clothing becoming soiled, they are provided with working suits which they must change for their regular uniform at dress parade time.

During military exercises, all the citizen officers of the regiment, viz: the colonel, lieutenant-colonel, majors and captains, carry swords as do inmate officers of higher rank than sergeant namely, lieutenants and regimental adjutant. The remainder of the inmate officers and the rank and file of the regiment are equipped with wooden



Military—The Reformatory Brass Band



models of rifles for use in executing the manual of arms.

The general cut and style of the regular institutional uniform does not vary materially whether intended for officer or private; citizen or inmate. It consists of a sack coat and trousers of a military cut, the coat having a standing collar and concealed buttons and the trousers, a side stripe where required by the rank of the wearer. All officers, citizen and inmate, wear military caps with straight visor and chin strap. The rank and file of the prisoners wear caps of the same general pattern, having chin strap but without the visor.

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#### **The Regimental Brass Band.**

The institutional class in music is under the direction of a citizen instructor, who utilizes the services of inmate teachers as needed. Pupils in the class in music have their class sessions during a certain period of the morning of each week day except Saturday, which is the institutional bathing

day as has before been stated.

The knowledge of music which it is possible to acquire at the reformatory during the average period of detention of prisoners is not considered adequate to afford a sufficient means of livelihood for inmates when released. Inmate musicians are therefore required to learn some one of the other trades included in the institutional curriculum, and take their places as pupils in the regular afternoon trades school.

Instruction is imparted in the manipulation and use of all instruments of brass, wood, and percussion commonly used in a military band. From the most proficient pupils of the music class are chosen the members of the institutional military brass and reed band.

The band, when on regular daily duty, is in direct charge of an inmate instructor, or band leader, who selects the music to be played and gives attention to the manner of its execution. The march movements and playing signals of the band are controlled by an inmate drum major

who, from his position at its head, and several paces in advance, directs the movements with his baton.

The musicians of the band are clothed in scarlet uniforms and caps, and light blue trousers. The drum major's uniform consists of scarlet frock coat, black shako and blue trousers.

There are twenty-five musicians in the band. When in regular order for marching they are in five ranks, with five men to the rank; these, with the drum major, complete the organization. The instruments are distributed as follows:

*Front Rank* Bass, baritone, three trombones.

*Second Rank* Two altos, two French horns,  
one tenor.

*Third Rank* Five cornets.

*Fourth Rank* Three clarinets, bass drum,  
side drum.

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#### **The Institutional Enclosure.**

Before entering upon our description of the exercise of dress parade, which concludes our syn-

opsis of the military organization, we deem it desirable to give the reader an idea of the interior of the institutional enclosure, in order that the description of the parade may be better understood.

A reference to the ground plan of the reformatory will show that the institution proper is comprised of buildings so arranged as to partially enclose a considerable plot of ground, and that the enclosure is rendered complete by the addition of a brick wall. This institutional yard is in the general form of a rectangle and is divided about midway of its depth by a transverse wall which formerly constituted the rear boundary of the enclosure, but which is now called the center wall.

The yard walls are twenty feet in height and two or more feet in width. Upon the walls, at each of the angles and at all gateways allowing egress therefrom are located small, circular wooden sentry-boxes, or turrets, each surmounted by an electric lamp and surrounded by a platform. Within the turret is a telephone connected with the administrative building. These turrets are for the





Institutional Enclosure—The South Gate



use of the wall guards, of whom, more will be written later on under the heading of "*Supervision of the Prisoners.*"

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#### **The South Gate.**

In addition to the main entrance at the front of the institution, there are three gateways leading to the reformatory enclosure; two of these are located opposite each other at about midway of its lateral walls; the third pierces the rear wall at a point directly opposite the front entrance. The accompanying cut shows one of these lateral entrances known, from its location, as the south gate. At the top of the wall may be seen the south gate turret, with the wall guard at his post. One of his duties is to open and shut this gate when teams are allowed to enter or leave the institutional enclosure.

Through the south gate passes all institutional supplies, and its opening doors discover to the arriving prisoner, his first glimpse of the interior

of the reformatory. The gate has two pairs of doors; the first, or inner pair close the entrance through the wall, proper; from these doors, a high, walled, but not covered passage way extends outward at right angles to the wall for a distance of about thirty feet. The second pair of doors close the outer end of this passage. Both sets of gates are operated by the guard in charge of the turret, without leaving his platform. When it becomes necessary that a team should pass into the institutional enclosure, the outer gates are opened, the team is admitted to the passage, and the gates are closed. The gates in front are then opened, permitting the team to enter the yard. This arrangement very effectually safeguards against the escape of prisoners at these points. The other two outside gates are similarly constructed.

#### **The Center Gate.**

Midway of the transverse center wall before mentioned is located the center gate, formerly the rear gate of the institution.

Toward the front, this gate opens upon the original reformatory enclosure, in which are located the prison proper, the domestic building, the power plant, the gymnasium, certain trade school shops the school of letters class rooms, the laundry, the general bath room, and certain store rooms. A large part of the unoccupied yard space is utilized as a parade ground for the reformatory regiment. Viewed from the center gate, the parade ground is situated at the right side of the yard.

The center gate gives to the rearward, upon the extension of the original enclosure and is the terminal of what is practically an institutional street beginning at the rear gate (situated at the centre of the present rear wall) and extending through the middle of the enclosure extension. On either side of this street are located the remainder of the trades school shops, the regimental armory, the lumber yard, various store houses and other minor buildings.

The accompanying cut gives a view of the centre gate taken from the enclosure extension.

All institutional supplies, after being received at the south gate, are inspected and accounted for at the centre gate. The receiving officer may be seen at his desk in his office at the left of the entrance. The turret above has now no occupant as, since the building of the enclosure extension, it has been deemed unnecessary that a guard should be stationed on the wall at this point.

Although there are several small grass plats in the reformatory enclosure, the major part of the open space is concreted; and all roads over which institutional teams must pass are paved with bricks. The concreted and paved surfaces are so constructed as to depress slightly toward lateral shallow gutters leading to numerous sewer gratings, so that rain, melted snow, and cleansing water are easily disposed of. The pavement is sprinkled and swept, daily, in summer, and in the winter season, fallen snow is quickly loaded on the institutional wagons and carted away. No effort is spared to keep the enclosure in a neat and cleanly condition. A number of prisoners are regularly assigned to this



Institutional Enclosure—The Center Gate, Between East and West Yards



work upon the recommendation of the physician, for the reason that they stand in need of more exercise in the open air than is afforded by the regular routine.

One of the small grass plats before mentioned, situated near the center gate, and opposite the parade ground, is furnished with seats for visitors who may wish to view the military exercises.

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**A Description of the Military Exercise of  
Regimental Dress Parade, as Viewed  
from the Visitors' Seats, Near  
the Center Gate.**

The institutional steam whistle voices the signal for the parade. Quickly the prisoners appear from various points within the reformatory and wend their several ways toward the armory, which is the assembling place for the regiment.

A period of ten minutes, immediately preceding the sounding of the whistle, is allotted the inmates as a preparatory season in which to blacken their shoes, wash their hands and faces, don their white

belts and cross-belts and render themselves generally presentable. For Wednesday or Saturday parade the men make these preparations in their rooms, shortly after returning from the midday meal; on other days, local wash basins and itinerant shoe-blackening equipments afford the necessary smartening facilities in the divers shops, corridors, or other places where the prisoners may be employed.

In taking its way to the armory, each of the different groups, or squads walks in "column of twos" as it is called, i.e., two walking abreast, immediately followed by the rest of the squad, in the same formation and in regular succession. The men keep step with the inmate officer into whose charge they have been detailed by the citizen officer having supervision of the work at which they have been engaged.

As the squads pass, we are impressed by the quiet and orderly way in which the large body of inmates composing the reformatory regiment is mobilized from the numerous places of

employment, to the general rendezvous at the armory. The military requirement of silence and strict attention and obedience to the orders of the commanding officer is enforced as well in changing groups of prisoners from one place of employment to another, as when actually engaged in military drill, or parade. In fact, one of the chief among the many beneficial results accruing from institutional military training is that of increased facility and effectiveness in the handling of the prisoners.

In the meantime, however, the passing squads have all disappeared within the armory, whence, with your leave, we will follow them, and observe what next takes place.

The different groups, upon arrival, separate, each man receiving his gun or sword, as his rank may designate, and repairing at once to his place in the company to which he belongs.

The citizen captains form their respective companies in double rank, that is, in two rows, facing to the front and one behind the other.

When this is done, the first sergeant in each company calls the roll of his company and an account is taken of absentees. At the conclusion of company roll call the captain and first lieutenant of each company inspect the arms, accoutrements and personal appearance of its members. An order is then given for all who desire to be excused from military duty for the day, on account of disability, to step from the ranks; these are taken in charge by the first sergeant.

The bugler sounds the proper signal and the four battalions composing the regiment leave the armory in consecutive order and, headed by the band, begin their march to the parade ground.

Having resumed our original view point, in the visitors' pavilion, we turn and watch with interest the marching ranks, as they approach, in compact columns, each battalion with its individual flag, while in the centre of the regiment appears the Stars and Stripes; the latter having, in addition to its standard bearer, a color guard, composed of two privates of the regiment.





**Military—Regimental Battalions Leaving Armory**



Keeping time with the inspiring melody of one of the popular marches, the regiment passes through the central arch leading to the parade ground. Then we hear the command, "Squads, right—March!" The moving columns alter their direction, accordingly, and proceed until they reach a point near the further side of the enclosure, when we hear the order, "Squads, left—March!" given, and the regiment, once more altering its course, continues its march and, changing its form in obedience to the proper orders, disposes itself in such a manner that it eventually comes to a halt, facing the pavilion, and extending in four long lines, reaching the entire length of the enclosure. Equidistant along these may be seen four open spaces, marking the location of the battalions. The band takes position at the right of the regiment.

In advance, and midway of the front line of each company appears its captain. The four majors are still further advanced and are similarly stationed in front of their respective battalions. Facing the colors, and opposite the centre of the

regiment, stands the colonel.

Officers give attention to the proper placing of their men, and when all is in readiness, the regimental adjutant, stationed off to the right, gives the order, "Sound off!" This is the signal for the band which, headed by the drum major, brilliant in scarlet coat and raven-hued shako, marches, playing, to the opposite end of the regiment; then countermarching, returns to its original position at the right.

The bugler now voices the appropriate signal; The institutional cannon booms. "Old Glory," floating from a stately spar, near by, is lowered; the regimental adjutant, moving to a position near the colonel and, facing the regiment, gives the order, "Present arms!" Then, turning upon his heel, he lifts his sword in the military salute and reports to the colonel: "Sir the parade is formed!"

The adjutant moves to the rear of the colonel, who now assumes charge of the regiment, causing the performance of such military exercises as he may deem desirable, and concluding with a somewhat

unique combination termed the "silent manual." This exercise includes all the movements of the original manual of arms, as it is termed in military parlance, and is executed, in its entirety, upon the issuance of the initial order, "Carry arms." The institutional regiment executes this exercise with an accuracy and precision which both interests and impresses us.

At the conclusion of the manual exercises, the regimental adjutant again takes his post in advance of the colonel and facing the regiment, issues the order, "Adjutants, front, centre — March!" In accordance with this order, the four battalion adjutants advance and, saluting the regimental adjutant, report for their respective battalions. Upon receiving the order, "Adjutants, post — March!" these officers resume their original stations and the regimental adjutant faces the colonel, salutes and reports: "Sir, all are present or accounted for." In obedience to an order from the colonel, the adjutant again faces the regiment and reads from a paper in his hand, the orders of the day. He next

gives the order, "Officers, front and center — March!" In response, all the officers form in line in advance of the regiment, an officer designated for that purpose, issues the order, "Forward, guide, centre — March!" and the officers advance to the front, salute the colonel, receive his salute in return, and return to their stations, in obedience to his order: "Officers, post — March!"

The colonel now issues his final order in the parade; "Pass in review!" The regiment, in company formation, passes the reviewing officer and returns to the armory.

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#### **The Guard Room Office**

This office is in charge of a citizen clerk who is assisted in his duties by several inmate clerks and stenographers. The department is devoted exclusively to institutional matters as, the computing of prisoners' accounts, the recording of their demeanor, school, and military work, etc. Also, through this department is conducted the corre-



**Military—Dress Parade**



spondence with outside parties necessary to the obtaining of employment for prisoners about to be paroled; and here are prepared the necessary documents authorizing the parole, absolute release discharge, or return for violation of parole of each inmate leaving the reformatory. Many other business matters pertaining especially to the prisoners, find attention in this office.

All the information concerning a newly arrived inmate which it is possible to obtain (elicited in large part at his initial interview with the superintendent) is recorded in a large volume kept for the purpose in the guard room office. These entries may include the following: The prisoner's right name (with aliases if any) his photograph, taken upon admission, by the institutional photographer, his age when received here, education religious belief, personal habits, previous criminal record, if any, and place of residence prior to conviction. In addition to the above, in this book is noted from time to time, each with its appropriate date, the inmate's promotion or reduction in grade,

his parole, and subsequent absolute release; and if he is a United States prisoner, or is retained for the maximum period specified in his commitment, because of having failed to earn his release by parole, the date of his final discharge is here noted. The volume in which this record is kept is named the *biographical register*.

Another volume in the guard room office contains a detailed record of each prisoner's daily routine. Here is noted his class, and assignment in the school of letters and the trades school, with his respective percentage ratings, as shown by the periodical examinations. Losses of credit incident to failures in school examinations, and to infractions of institutional discipline are here added to the amount of the prisoner's indebtedness to the institution for medical attendance, food, lodging, clothing and other supplies; the total, when subtracted from his daily earnings, showing his credit balance, to date. This book is known as the inmates' *conduct ledger*.

The ledger is kept on the "loose leaf" plan

so that the leaf containing a prisoner's account may be removed from the volume after his absolute release, or discharge from the institution, and filed in the record room for possible future reference.

By reading the above it will be observed that an examination of these volumes acquaints the seeker with the exact status of an inmate, even to the probable date of his authorization for parole.

There is also in the guard room office a cabinet containing a series of envelopes, each of which is devoted to the affairs of the inmate whose name and consecutive number appear thereon. In these envelopes are filed the prisoners' original commitment papers, their written reports to the general superintendent, as required during the period of their parole, and all institutional notes or correspondence pertaining to them, including all reports issued against them for infractions of the rules, or for failures in school examinations, together with all letters written to the superintendent concerning them, by outside parties. These envelopes are

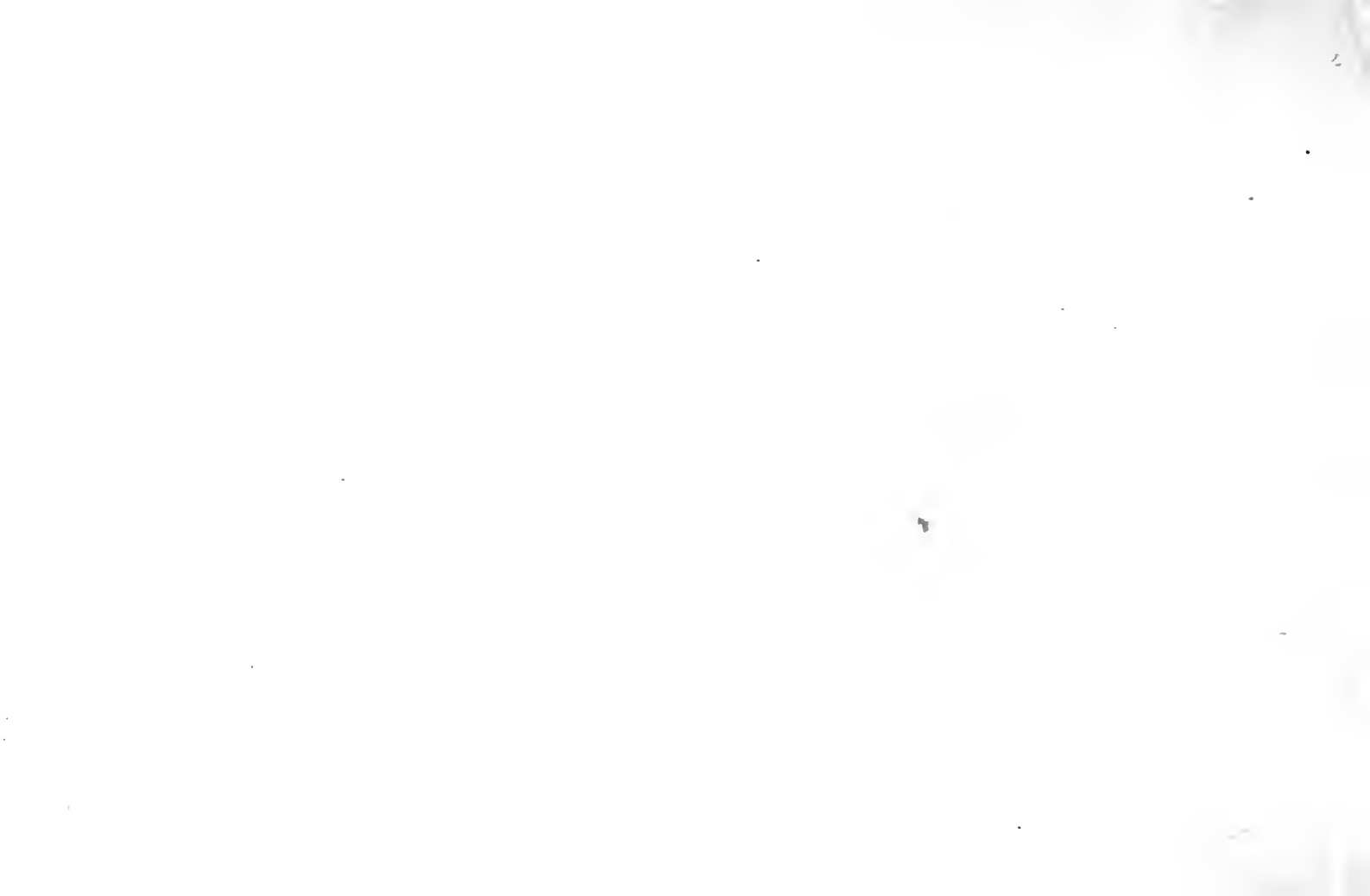
arranged consecutively, according to the prisoner's number which each bears; and the drawers in which they are filed are placed in series, showing on their fronts the inclusive consecutive numbers of the envelopes contained therein.

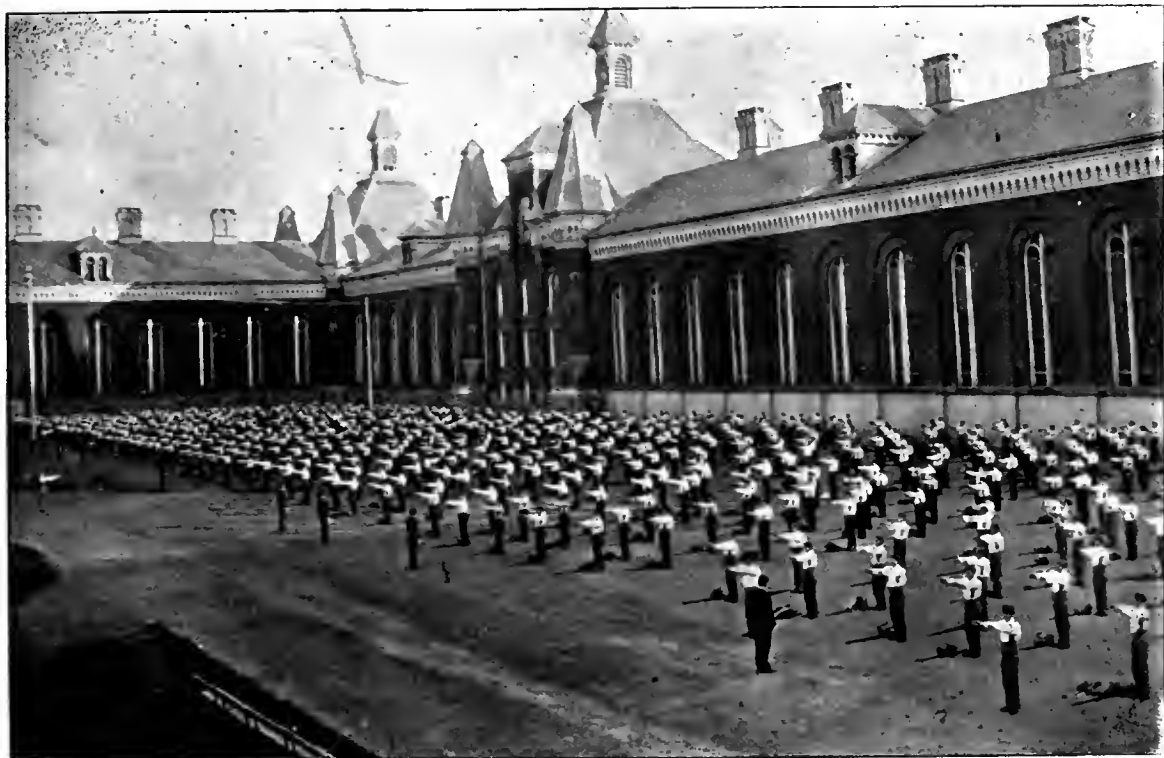
For convenience in dispatching the routine work of the office a plan somewhat similar to the "loose leaf", and known as the "card system" is quite extensively used. The cards employed for this purpose are each headed with an inmate's name and number, the remaining space being utilized for whatever data is required; they are consecutively arranged in long boxes similar to those in the cabinet mentioned above. One of the records maintained in this manner is that of the general superintendent's interviews with inmates; in this instance the card bears the dates of previous interviews, together with any other brief memoranda concerning same, to which the superintendent may subsequently wish to refer. Another use for the card system is in assigning prisoners to their various daily avocations; in this case the card





Military—Passing in Review





Military Setting-up Exercises





Military—Inmate Military Officers





**Military—Summer Uniform of (inmate)  
Lieutenant**



**Inmate's Cell**



**Winter Uniform of (inmate) Private  
(Badge of Honor)**





contains a record of present assignment, together with previous changes, and the date of each.

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#### **Method of Assigning Inmates to Rooms**

Upon admission, all prisoners are temporarily assigned to the receiving gallery, a tier of cells especially reserved for this purpose. They lodge in these cells until they are summoned to the presence of the superintendent for the initial interview. After this takes place, a list containing their names and consecutive numbers is furnished the room clerk, (who is also the inmates' letter clerk) and this officer assigns them to unoccupied cells, furnishing notice of such assignment to the inside, or guard room office, and to the school director's office, for convenience in locating the inmates when their presence is desired elsewhere in the institution.

For his guidance in making room assignments the clerk has a room chart, consisting of a large

blackboard upon which appears the floor plan of the institutional cell galleries and the number of each cell. All cells with occupants, are so shown by having the small rectangular spaces by which they are represented on the blackboard, occupied by pasteboard slips; thus the clerk may tell at a glance which of the cells he has at his disposal in making his assignments.

Upon the little check card is noted the consecutive number, name, religious faith, and racial color of the room's occupant. The religious faith is noted, for convenience in designating who shall be allowed to leave their cells for the various Sunday assemblies; the racial color, so that white and colored prisoners may not be assigned as room-mates.

In addition to the duty of assigning rooms to inmates, the letter clerk supervises and keeps a record of the inmates' mail during their stay in the reformatory. All letters received at the institution addressed to inmates, are read by the letter clerk and filed, for delivery to their owners when they

shall be entitled to receive them. The clerk is also required to read all letters written and addressed to outside parties by the inmates, under the rules relating to inmates' correspondence, and such letters must be approved by him before being sent out.

The letter clerk's office, a cut of which accompanies this sketch is the meeting place of prisoners and their relatives, upon the occasion of the latter's periodical visits to the reformatory, as authorized by the rules governing such interviews.

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**Days for Writing and Receiving Letters—  
Days for Visiting**

Each inmate in the *first grade* is permitted to write one letter and receive one, during each month; the *second grade* prisoners are allowed a like privilege once in two months. Inmates in the *third grade* are not allowed to write or receive letters.

The day for writing (which is also the day upon which letters are received by the inmates) for the *first grade* is the first Sunday in each month. The day for writing for the *second grade* is the second Sunday of the following named months: February, April, June, August, October, and December. Prisoners, after receiving and reading their letters, are not permitted to retain them, the letters being filed, however, and given them when they leave the institution.

Inmates in the *first*, and *second grades*, may receive, once in three months, a visit from their relatives; but this privilege is denied the *third grade*.

The above rule regarding writing, does not apply to prisoners authorized for parole, who are allowed to write and receive letters relative to obtaining employment when released.

**Gifts Which May be Received from  
the Outside**

Each inmate is allowed to receive from his relatives, a floor rug, three, by six feet in dimensions;

also photographs of relatives when approved by the superintendent.

Upon the occasion of a visit from an inmate's relatives he may be allowed to receive a certain amount of fruit, as a gift.

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#### **Prohibited by the Rules**

Inmates are not allowed to receive money from any person; relatives of prisoners being especially cautioned by the management to inclose no money in their letters when writing to persons confined in the institution; nor to pay nor send money to any persons representing themselves to be connected with the institution, or claiming to have the power to secure benefits or favors to, or the release of an inmate of the reformatory.

Inmates are not allowed to use tobacco in any form.

#### **Supervising Officers—The New York Prison Association.**

It has been previously mentioned in this book that prisoners paroled from the reformatory are required to make monthly reports to the general superintendent for a period of at least six months before they are entitled to consideration for absolute release. These reports must each receive the written approval of the superintendent of police, or other peace officer residing in the town to which the prisoner is paroled. Under ordinary circumstances, it is the custom to parole an inmate to the town from which he was sentenced to the reformatory. All offers of employment, obtained by prisoners authorized for parole, or obtained for them, by their relatives or friends, are investigated by these officers who then make recommendations regarding same, for the guidance of the general superintendent in the matter of paroles. Supervising officers also frequently assist in obtaining such employment; aid being often needed in the event of the prisoner having no friends to whom he can apply for this purpose.

The supervising agency in the city of New York is the New York Prison Association, whose offices are located at No. 135 East Fifteenth Street New York city. As a large proportion of the prisoners forming the reformatory population is received from that city, it is evident that the supervision of prisoners paroled to New York entails a very considerable amount of labor upon the supervising agency; hence, a certain sum of money is paid to the association for its services in this capacity, by the reformatory. The parole agent for the city of Buffalo receives compensation, for the same reason. The other peace officers throughout the state perform this service without compensation.

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#### **Supervision of the Prisoners**

While all the reformatory employes have to do, more or less directly, with the supervision and discipline of the institution, as they may find it neces-

sary, in their various occupations, to have charge of, or come in other contact with the inmates; and while, in such capacity, they have the authority to verbally reprove, or if necessary, to issue reports against the latter, the supervision department, proper, comprises those officers whose chief duty it is to supervise the inmates in their daily routine; and this class includes the present force of reformatory guards, numbering, sixty-four.

A continuous supervision of the prisoners being essential to their safe keeping, the force of guards is divided into two groups, for day and night duty, respectively. The latter group is not large, for the reason that during the night season there are no assemblies of the inmates, as they are locked in their rooms after receiving their supper at five-thirty in the evening. The day watch, comprising the remainder of the guards is separated in two groups, the wall guards and the inside guards. The former do duty upon the institutional wall, which is so constructed that it may be patrolled its entire length. There is usually a wall guard assigned to

duty at each of the wall turrets; these turrets being located, as hereinbefore mentioned, at angles of the wall, and at the gates permitting egress from the institution.

The duties of wall guards, include the patrolling of that portion of the wall assigned to their supervision, and if this should include one of the gates, the supervision and manipulation of the latter. The wall guards take their posts of duty in the morning before the prisoners go to their occupations, and are recalled at such time as the prisoners are locked in their cells at evening.

The duties of the inside guards include the daily supervision of the inmate population as they are assembled in the shops, school rooms, corridors, at institutional construction and repair work, or at whatever employment the latter may be engaged. At breakfast, dinner, supper, shop, school, military, bathing, Sabbath, and all other assemblies of the prisoners, the inside guards are stationed about the institutional corridors, rooms, and enclosure where, assisted by inmate monitors, they supervise the

“turnouts” as they are institutionally termed, and insure the execution of these movements in a quiet and orderly manner. The inside guards must also be sufficiently versed in military exercises to be officers, if required, in the reformatory regiment, previously described.

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#### **The Institutional Library**

The library contains approximately 4,000 volumes; in addition to which, subscription is had to fifty, weekly and monthly publications including three prominent metropolitan and two local newspapers, several religious papers, and many of both the standard and popular weekly and monthly magazines. In addition to these, there are many journals devoted especially to the trades in which instruction is given at the reformatory.

Included in the list of volumes comprising the library proper, are text and reference books pertaining to the school of letters, among which

may be found works on art, biography, government and law, philosophy, religion, science, history, economics, literature; also reference books for the various trades taught in the institution. There are likewise many volumes of standard and popular fiction, and several standard dictionaries and encyclopædias.

Each inmate, upon the occasion of his initial interview with the school director, occurring soon after his admission, is furnished with a printed list of books, of which, one may be drawn upon a specified day of each week. The grade and character of the books allowed a prisoner depend in large measure upon his status in the school of letters. The list mentioned above does not include works of fiction, which are supplied by the school director, in his discretion, upon written request of the applicant.

An inmate, by written application to the school director, may obtain, once in two weeks, a trade journal, especially devoted to the interest of the trade which he may be learning in the reformatory.

Members of the two highest classes in the school of letters are entitled to an extra library privilege, allowing each to draw in addition to his regular library book, one extra book, every second week. In addition to the above, any inmate may receive, at his option, a magazine each week, in place of his regular book.

For convenience in distributing library matter each prisoner is given what is called a library card, at the top of which are printed forms with blank spaces which the applicant is required to fill with his consecutive number, name, room and class number while underneath are other blank spaces in which to enter the number of the book desired, and the date of application.

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#### **The Reformatory Newspaper**

In 1884, the "*Summary*," an institutional newspaper, designed for the instruction and entertainment of the prisoners was established, and it is

still continued. It is an eight-page weekly, issued on Saturday evenings to inmates, citizen officers, and a necessarily limited outside circulation; the latter, chiefly public officials and others interested in penological matters. On each of the national holidays of Christmas, New Years, Independence, and Thanksgiving days, an extra, 24-page edition is published. The Summary is edited and printed by the inmates.

The contents of the paper include general news selected from the leading newspapers and periodicals, editorial comments, local institutional items of interest to the prisoners, occasional articles contributed by inmates, or citizen officers, notices of an institutional character; together with a record showing total number of inmates at time of writing; also, number received, discharged, paroled, or returned for violation of parole during the current week; likewise a record of changes in grade, number in school of letters, and in the trades school, and other information of local or general interest. All matter of a criminal or otherwise objectionable

character is carefully excluded. Following is given the table of contents of the Special Summary for Thanksgiving, 1902.

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### **The Administrative Department**

(Front Office)

The office is in charge of the chief clerk of the

reformatory who has general supervision of all clerks, clerical work, and accounting, and is cashier. He is also, confidential clerk to the general superintendent and has charge of the correspondence under the latter's direction.

The chief clerk, in the absence of both the general superintendent and the assistant superintendent, has general charge of the institution.

The clerical force in the administrative department includes a book keeper, junior clerk, stenographer, and telegrapher; the latter, in addition to other duties, having charge of the Western Union telegraph office maintained at the institution. The administrative office is located outside the prison enclosure but adjacent to its main entrance.

In this department is conducted the general book keeping, accounting, and correspondence. All checks in payment for services rendered or supplies furnished the reformatory, are here prepared, the employes' payroll is made; bills are audited and checked; supervision and record is maintained of amounts received and expended against the several





Administrative-Chief Clerk's Office



special appropriations authorized by the state legislature to be used at the reformatory for various purposes, including repair and new construction work. Briefly stated, the finances of the institution are administered in the front office.

Persons having business to transact with the reformatory officials, or visitors desiring to inspect the institution, first visit the front office and confer with the chief clerk, who sees that such matters receive prompt attention.

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#### **The Purchasing Department**

The citizen officer in charge of the department is the reformatory steward; his book keeper and two clerks are also citizens. In addition to this force, he has in his department a number of inmate accountants and stenographers by whom, under his

direction a considerable portion of the routine work is performed.

Approximately, \$230,000 is annually appropriated by the state legislature for the general maintenance of the institution and its inmates. On this basis, one-twelfth of that sum, or, in round numbers, \$18,333 would be the average, or pro rata amount which could be expended during any month. Certain conditions, as the variation of the coal consumption during the summer and winter months etc., would necessarily cause this amount to vary somewhat, but it is intended that excess expenditures in certain months will be counterbalanced by savings in others so that the total at the close of the fiscal year shall not exceed the annual appropriation.

To defray the expenses of maintaining the institution, the state treasurer issues monthly drafts, payable from the annual appropriation, upon the order of the state comptroller.

Under the rules governing state charitable and

reformatory institutions, all expenditures incurred must receive the approval of the proper authorities at Albany before payment can be made, and such payment must be made before the expiration of the month during which the bills are contracted. To accomplish this it is necessary to previously determine, as nearly as may be, what supplies will be necessary for the month in question; to tabulate a list of such supplies, with their prices, and to forward same to the fiscal supervisor of state charities, at Albany, N. Y., sometime during the month immediately preceding the month in which supplies are to be purchased; the approval of such statement will then be received in time to order and pay for the goods before the expiration of the month in which it is designed that they shall be used. A statement of this character is known as an "*estimate*."

A statement enumerating the various items of supplies needed by the reformatory during one of the fiscal months, is known as a "*general maintenance estimate*." In the preparation of the monthly

general maintenance estimate the following method is in vogue: We will suppose that the estimate is to be prepared for the month of August. About the 20th of the June preceding, notice is given to all heads of institutional departments to formulate lists of the supplies which they will need during the coming month of August; when these lists are received, printed requests for quotations of prices for the various articles needed, are sent to a number of business firms dealing in these supplies. The lowest of the quoted prices are incorporated in the estimate and practically form the basis on which the total amount of the estimate is to be computed. When the estimate is complete, say about July 15th, it is examined and approved by the board of managers of the reformatory, and forwarded to the fiscal supervisor. Upon his approval being received, say on July 25th, the various items of supplies may be ordered, for delivery in August, the month for which the estimate has been prepared.

The efficiency of the general maintenance estimate ceases with the expiration of the month for



Administrative-Financial Office



which it is prepared, hence, if goods ordered on this estimate are for some reason not delivered until the month has expired, thus rendering the estimate void, it becomes necessary that another estimate be prepared and approved to admit of payment being made for the goods thus tardily delivered. Or, should it be found, after the preparation of the regular maintenance estimate, that certain articles were omitted which it is desirable to purchase, an estimate would be made, and approval asked, for purchasing such supplies. Again, if quantities ordered in bulk, as coal, arrive in greater amount than was specified for any month, which at times is unavoidable; it becomes necessary to make an estimate to allow for the payment of excess quantities. Lastly, should the services of an employee be engaged after the estimate has been prepared, a special estimate would be necessary before his salary could be paid for the month in question. All the above are known as supplemental estimates to the general maintenance estimate.

#### **The Domestic Building**

This fine large building is of fire proof construction, having a steel frame, brick walls, concrete foundations and floors, and a roof of concrete, covered with slate. It has been completed during the present year.

The domestic building is 250 feet long, by 65 feet wide and contains four stories and a basement. The first floor has the officers' kitchen, the inmates' kitchen, the bakery, general food storage rooms, and the refrigerating plant. The second floor contains the dining rooms for all the prisoners. The third floor is subdivided into the offices of the general superintendent, the assistant superintendent, the disciplinary officer, the physician, the directors of the school of letters, and the trades school, respectively, the military instructor, the guard room, the editor; also the library, and the officers' dining and serving room. The fourth floor is occupied by the officers' sleeping rooms and recreation rooms, and has a spacious balcony with a view of the prison enclosure.

### **The Institutional Hospital**

The hospital is under the supervision of the physician, the assistant physician, and one citizen officer; there are also several inmate helpers and attendants, composed in large part of convalescents. It occupies the second, third, fourth and fifth floors of a division of the reformatory located at the western extremity of the south wing; the rooms are well lighted, the walls, whitewashed and the floors, for the most part are of tiles.

Ascending the stairs to the hospital, one comes first to the contagion ward which occupies the whole of the second floor; The door of this room is locked when not in use. Ascending another flight brings one to the sick ward, or sick bay as it is institutionally termed; this floor is likewise all in one room; the beds are arranged around three sides of it in a row, and at a sufficient distance from the wall and from each other to admit of convenience of movement on the part of physicians and attendants. Beside each bed is placed a small medicine stand; a table in the centre of the room, with the

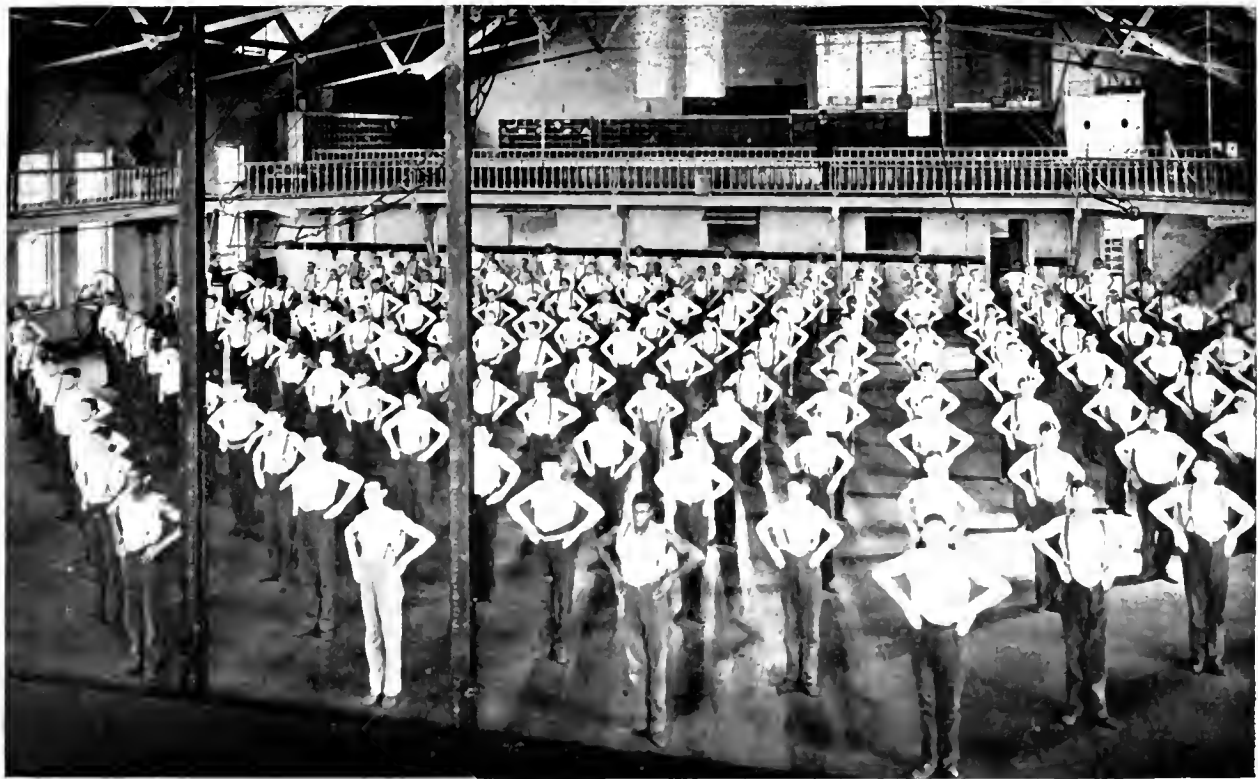
usual equipment of easy chairs completes the furnishing of the sick ward. The next floor above contains the surgical ward, the operating room, the pharmacy, the dressing room, and the dining room, all fairly well equipped for the uses for which they are respectively designed. The top floor of the hospital is in one large room, and is reserved exclusively for inmates afflicted with tuberculosis; its elevated location insures good light and pure air, both especially essential in the efforts made to combat this disease.

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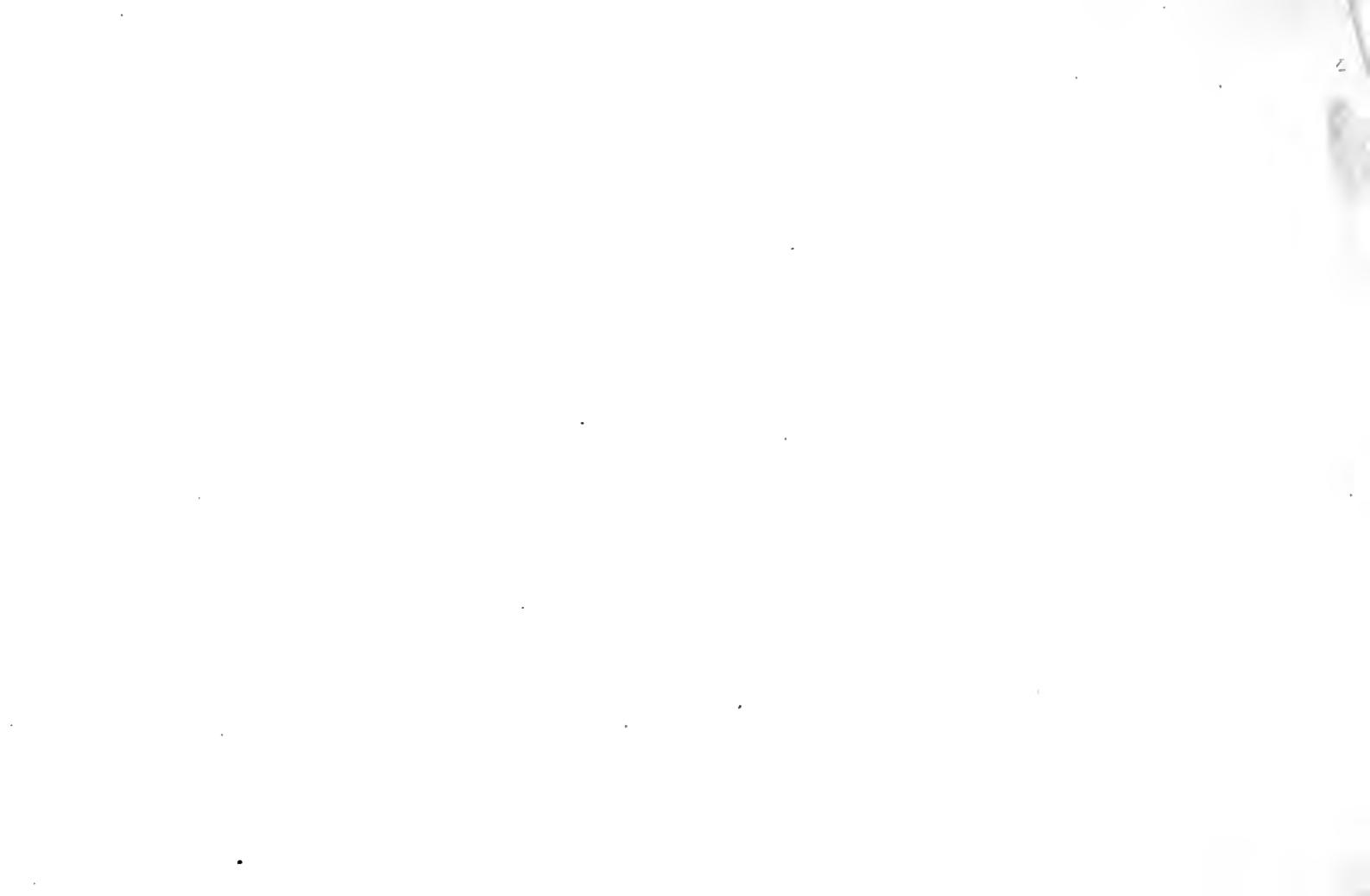
### **The Gymnasium**

The gymnasium is a brick structure, 140 feet in length by 80 in width, and stands nearly in the middle of the original prison enclosure. It contains an apparatus room, bath rooms and dressing room; the floor of the former is of hardwood, polished, and the bath rooms and the dressing room are





The Gymnasium—Physical Culture



paved with marble tiles. The building is heated by steam.

The apparatus room, or gymnasium proper, is 100 feet by 80 feet in dimensions; from its ceiling depend trapezes, rope ladders, etc., and ranged around its walls are other pieces of apparatus used in athletic work; among these may be enumerated a variety of pulley and weight arrangements designed to strengthen the muscles of the neck, chest, abdomen and limbs by affording exercise in a variety of movements arranged and classified for this purpose; likewise, vaulting bars, horizontal and inclined ladders, travelling rings, and other devices to aid in improving physical development.

Extending around the four sides of the room at about midway of its height, is a padded gallery for running, one-twelfth of a mile in length, giving facilities for exercising the limbs and lungs without taking up the space of the floor beneath, which may be utilized at the same time, for other work. The gymnasium is of sufficient capacity to accommodate 200 pupils at a time.

A special suit of clothes is furnished each inmate assigned to gymnasium treatment; this suit is worn only during class sessions and is composed of a loose, sleeveless, knit shirt, white duck trousers, and leather-soled, canvas slippers. Every inmate assigned to the gymnasium keeps his class suit in a small compartment allotted to him for this purpose.

There are two general classes of pupils assigned to the gymnasium for treatment; one of these is composed of all the new arrivals, hereinbefore mentioned as the awkward squad. This class usually numbers about 200, and its pupils are so assigned for general physical training; its class sessions occur on Saturday afternoon of each week and are of two hours' duration. The new arrivals remain in this class until they graduate from the awkward squad — usually from four to six weeks. The other class numbers about 150 in the forenoon and 50 in the afternoon and is made up of inmates assigned from time to time by the physician, to the gymnasium for special treatment; it

is termed the physical culture class; its sessions are held each week day forenoon and afternoon with the exception of Saturday afternoon which, as before stated, is devoted to the squad men; its sessions are also of two hours' duration. The pupils of this class remain so assigned until in the judgment of the physician they are sufficiently improved, physically, to admit of their return to the routine. Certain body measurements are taken of each pupil upon his admission to the class, and these are repeated from time to time, by the physician, and a record of same is kept for the purpose of ascertaining the rate of improvement. In taking these measurements, the anthropometric system is used.

The gymnasium work of the squad men consists principally in the performance of a general exercise in which the pupils, after being placed in lines facing the instructor, execute under his direction, certain gymnastic movements, keeping time to piano music, and employing in the course of the exercise, Indian clubs, wands and bar-bells. Chief among the results sought in requiring these move-

ments is the attainment of an upright and soldierly bearing, enabling the pupil to appear to much better advantage upon ultimately taking his place in the military organization.

The physical culture class, after being separated in groups graded according to physical ability, engage in light gymnastics, under the tuition of inmate instructors, utilizing in their exercises, the various apparatus which has been previously referred to as constituting the gymnasium equipment. The members of this class are required to bathe twice each week, the kind of bath prescribed varying with the physical condition of the individual, for example, acne, with other skin diseases, is benefited by sweat baths, but it would be unwise and injurious to make use of these baths in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. In like manner, the cold plunge bath which would healthfully stimulate blood circulation in a person in good physical condition might, and probably would prove dangerous to a weakling. However, when health conditions permit, a sweat bath is first administered; after this

comes a spray bath, and, lastly a plunge in the swimming tank, the water of which is maintained at about 78 degrees, Fahrenheit. In prescribing bath treatment, the Kellogg system is followed.

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#### **The Bath Room**

This room occupies space on the first floor of a newly erected brick, iron, and concrete building of fire proof construction, standing in the original prison enclosure, near the centre gate.

The bath room is 285 feet long, by 65, wide. A longitudinal partition wall through the centre of the building separates the bath room from the laundry, a room occupying equal space on the opposite side of the building.

The lower windows of the building's west wall furnish the bath room light by day; if used at night, it is illuminated by incandescents, conveniently placed. Steam heat is supplied by the central

power house. The room has concrete ceiling and floor, the latter having a gentle slope from the longitudinal centre to the sides. Extending along each longitudinal side and close to the walls of the room is a shallow trench in the concrete floor. Over these two trenches are placed the booths for bathing.

Each of the booths is walled with slate, upon three of its sides, the fourth, opening toward the longitudinal centre of the room, is closed by a spring-hinged wooden door. The slate walls of the booth are six feet in height, while the door in front is much foreshortened at both top and bottom, permitting a thorough supervision of the booth by the officer in charge.

Extending longitudinally through the centre of the room is a wooden platform, elevated three feet above the floor; this platform is patrolled by the officers having charge of the bath room upon the regular days for bathing the prisoners.

Water for bathing is supplied from a two-inch, horizontal pipe, having a small, spray-nozzled

branch depending over the centre of each booth. Each of these branches has its controlling valve, operated by means of a small chain hanging within reach of the bather. In an angle of the booth is placed a small, metal soap dish. The temperature of the water for bathing is regulated by a water heater, installed at the end of the room.

There are 110 booths in the bath room. Opposite each of the two rows of booths is a door leading to the laundry store room.

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#### **The Laundry Storeroom**

This is a capacious room, occupying one end of the building in which are located the laundry and bath rooms, and affording, by means of suitably placed doors, communication with each of these rooms. Small wooden compartments, contain the prisoners' newly washed underwear, pillow slips, etc., as they are received from the laundry. On the

outside of each compartment appears the consecutive number of the inmate whose property it contains.

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#### **Bathing the Prisoners**

With the exception of certain prisoners (kitchen helpers, outside workers, and the like, who are allowed to bathe more frequently than the others on account of the peculiar character of their work) the entire inmate population bathes on Saturday morning of each week, the modus operandi being as follows:

The prisoners march in double rank to the corridor leading to the bath room; here the even and odd consecutive numbers are placed in respective lines. They then pass to the laundry store room, adjoining the bath room, where each deposits certain of his soiled articles and receives his quota of clean garments, pillow slips, etc.,



New Domestic Building (1906), and the Gymnasium

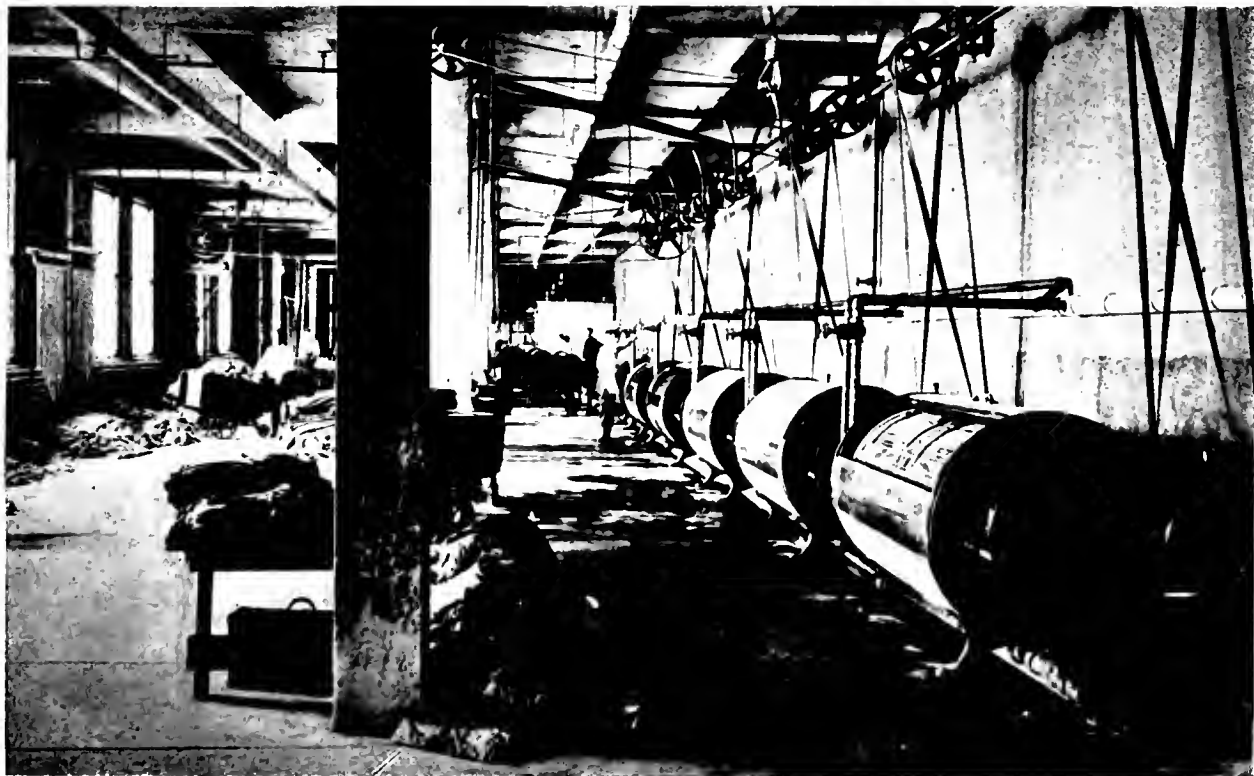






Institutional The Bathing Room





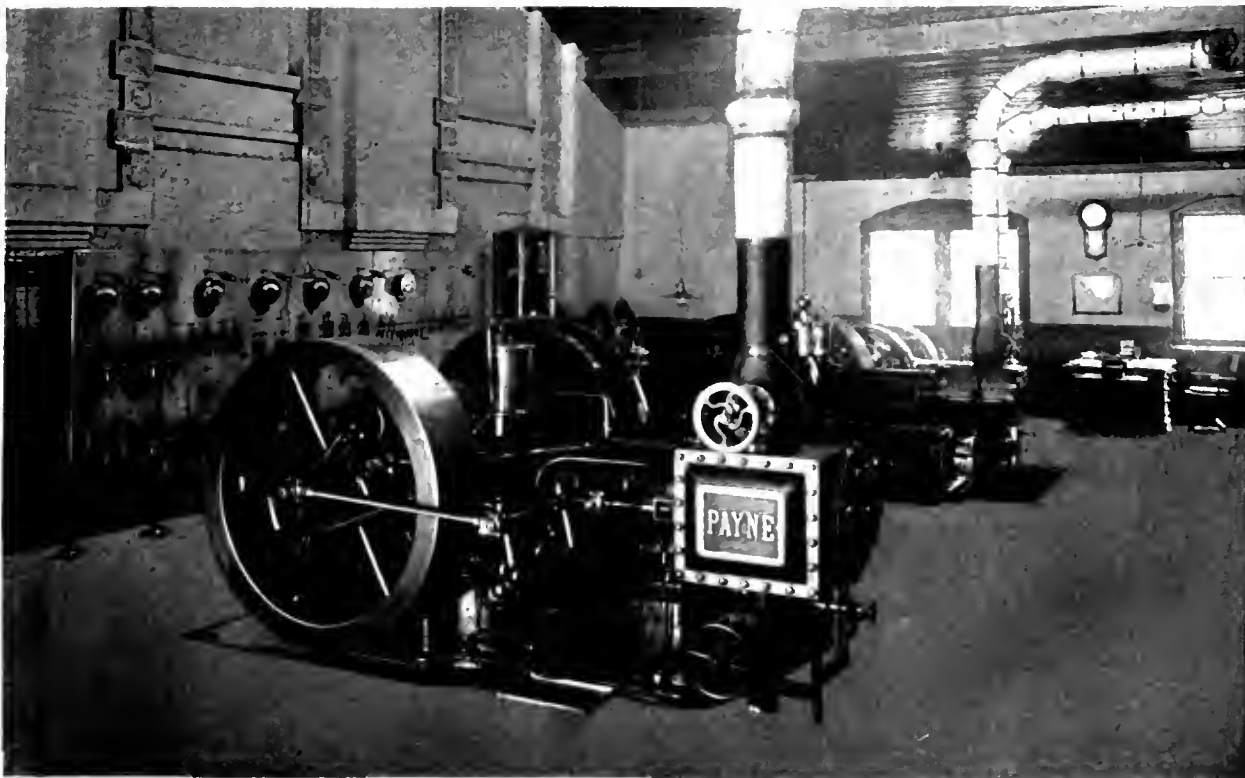
Institutional—The Laundry





Institutional Storeroom "B" (Clothing)





Institutional-The Power House







Institutional-The Hospital





Institutional—The Hospital, Tubercular Ward





Institutional—A Cell Block



from the laundry officer and his assistants. They next pass into the bath room, the even numbers taking the right and the odd numbers, the left row of booths. Each prisoner places his clothes upon the bench in front of his booth. He is allowed five minutes in which to complete his bath, after which he dons his clean garments and resumes his place in the ranks, depositing as he passes out, his soiled underwear in a receptacle prepared for the purpose.

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#### **The Laundry**

The laundry is a long room, parallel to the bath room, but on the opposite side of the building; it is lighted by the east windows of the latter. Like the bath room, it has a concrete ceiling and floor. A door at the end of the room affords communication with the laundry store room.

Near the side next the bath room is placed a

row of six, cylindrical, rotary washers; motion is imparted to these washers by means of gearing, suitably connected with a line shaft operated by an electric motor. The washers may be operated singly, or together, as desired. At the axle of each is an arrangement whereby water and steam can be admitted to the cylinder or chamber in which the clothes are placed. A large iron tank, five or six feet in height by as many in diameter, is used for preparation of soap-suds.

Occupying space in a line parallel to the row of washers are four machines known as centrifugal extractors, which perform the work of clothes wringers. The principal feature of an extractor consists of a hollow cylinder which rotates upon a vertical spindle. When this cylinder is filled with newly washed material and caused to revolve rapidly, the centrifugal force generated forces the moisture in the material outward to the walls of the cylinder, through which it escapes by numerous small openings. The material, after being whirled

in this cylinder for five minutes is removed, nearly dry.

Not far away stands the large mangle, between whose long, heated, cloth-covered rollers, the larger pieces of material, as sheets and table cloths are passed for the purpose of pressing them; the mangle takes the place of the ironing board for this class of material.

In the laundry is also installed a steam heated drier, consisting of twenty, uniform, galvanized iron, vertical compartments, containing sliding frames, the whole arrangement being not unlike the compartments and slides of a photographer's camera. The slides are iron frames about eight feet square, having cross bars upon which to hang the clothing or other material to be dried. To aid in moving these slides in and out of their respective compartments, they are suspended by rollers from iron tracks. Heat for drying the material is furnished by a coil of steam pipes placed beneath the compartments. Upon the outside of each compartment in the series is marked the class of ma-

terial, as sheets, towels, underwear, and the like, which it contains.

Ironing boards and other necessary facilities are furnished for the starching and ironing of the better grade of inmate's shirts; practically the only class of articles subjected to this process, found on the laundry list.

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#### **Method of Washing the Prisoners' Clothing**

The material to be washed is piled in a miscellaneous heap in a corner of the room. Inmate helpers assort and group the various articles according to their uses, each group being washed and dried separately, as, towels in one group; underwear in another, etc.

The washers are filled with the soiled material, cold water is admitted, the washers are set in motion and the material receives a preliminary rinsing; steam is then allowed to enter the washers, a



couple of pailfuls of soap from the tank is allotted to each, and the machines rotate slowly for an hour or two, the length of time varying somewhat with the material washed. A second rinsing with cold water, follows; the machines are stopped, and the material taken from the washers, placed on wheeled trucks and moved to the centrifugal extractors. These machines take most of the water from the clothes, the drying process being completed by the steam heated driers, in whose compartments the material is then placed, to remain for about ten hours, after which it is removed, and such articles as towels, pillow-slips, and sheets for the hospital beds are passed through the mangle; while the better grade of inmates' shirts are starched and ironed by hand. A final sorting is now made and each inmate's quota of clean clothing, etc., is placed by itself to be ultimately removed and stored in the locker, against the time of his next bath.

Ordinarily, the washing of the material occupies three days, the drying, one day, and the

sorting and placing in lockers, another day; the latter, including the mangling, and the starching and ironing, where necessary.

The electric motor, before mentioned, operates all the machinery of the laundry.

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#### **The Institutional Power House**

This building is located near the north side of the original prison enclosure and is a recently constructed substantial brick structure with steel roof and brick floors. It is divided into three rooms, the boiler room being located in the centre, and the dynamo room and the cold storage room, at either end. The brick smokestack is 126 feet in height.

The boiler room is ample in size, being 60 feet wide by 86 feet in depth; it is furnished with eight, 150 horse power boilers, of approved construction, recently purchased; all are furnished with the

"flush front" and provided [with the "shaking" grate. In one corner of the boiler room is located a brick-walled pit in which are installed two Worthington, boiler feed pumps with 12-inch steam cylinders, 7-inch water cylinders and 10-inch piston stroke; also two sewer pumps, an elevator pump, a feed water heater and return tank, and sundry other apparatus.

The dynamo room, situated at the right of the boiler room, occupies the entire end of the building and is 30 feet wide and 45 feet deep. This room contains three high-speed engines of, respectively, 50, 100, and 150 horse power, directly connected with three, 320, 640, and 800-ampere electric generators. The engines are equipped with Wright, automatic speed governors, and automatic relief valves to free the cylinders from water forced in with the steam from the boilers. There is also installed an improved electrical switch-board provided with automatic circuit-breakers.

The left end of the building is fitted as a store room for coal; it is 30 feet wide by 86 feet in depth

and is capable of holding about 1000 tons of coal; its floor is placed several feet below the surface of the ground to admit of increased storage capacity.

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#### **The Institutional Farm**

The farm lies adjacent to the rear of the reformatory grounds and comprises, approximately, 280 acres, of which, fifty are used for pasture, twenty-five are woodlands, and eight are occupied by an apple orchard.

The land is clay loam, somewhat stony, with heavy clay subsoil, and while it is not especially fertile, the nature of the soil favors the production of pasturage and hay, oats and rye, more than the other usual farm crops. However, all varieties of vegetables being extremely desirable for the prisoners' use, a considerable portion of the arable land is devoted to the raising of potatoes, sweet



Institutional Farm—Inmate Farmers



corn, cabbage, tomatoes, beans, turnips, carrots, etc. Fair results are obtained in the production of these crops with the aid of barnyard and commercial fertilizers.

In an average year the farm would yield for the use of the inmates, 1,000 bushels of potatoes, 1,000 dozens ears of sweet corn, and large quantities of the other vegetables named.

The production of alfalfa has been introduced and it is expected that in due time excellent results will be obtained in the growth of this crop.

Twenty-six milch cows; some of them Jerseys, others of the Holstein breed, graze in the pastures. About 300 quarts of milk are furnished daily, for the use of the institutional population. Fodder corn is raised on the farm, by which the hay ration is so supplemented that it is found necessary to purchase but a very inconsiderable quantity of food for the cows during the winter season.

The piggery contains from 300 to 500 swine; mostly of the Chester white variety. These are supported almost entirely from the refuse of the

kitchens. All the pork thus produced is used by the population, as are other farm products.

Ten teams are maintained upon the farm. When not employed at the farm work, proper, they are engaged in drawing coal and other supplies from the railway station or from the city markets, or in incidental team work about the institution, of which there is always abundance, occasioned by construction and repair work, delivering ice from the ice houses to the several departments, carting away ashes and other refuse, etc.

The woodlands support a good growth of oak and pine, a considerable quantity of which is from time to time manufactured into lumber, as required for building or repair work, or for use in the trades classes.

At the rear of the farm, a small brook, passing a ravine, has been transformed into a reservoir, covering some ten acres of the bottom of the valley. From this, the water supply of the reformatory is piped to the institution, the elevation of the

reservoir above the plateau upon which the reformatory stands being sufficient to render this practicable. In winter, also, the ice houses are replenished from this reservoir.

The various barns and other necessary farm buildings are conveniently located outside the institutional wall, nearly all of them being placed near the south gate where they may be easily reached from the institution.

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#### **The Greenhouse**

This is a recently erected building, of modern construction located outside the prison enclosure, near the south gate. Its temperature is regulated by steam heat, furnished by a small boiler and furnace installed in the building.

In the greenhouse are propagated tomato, cauliflower, and celery plants for the garden. Flowering and foliage plants are also furnished for the flower plats, the flower urns, placed at various points throughout the corridors and grounds, and for the decoration of the several school rooms. Cut flowers are likewise supplied for the insti-

tutional hospital, the superintendent's residence, and the chapel.

The greenhouse is in charge of the gardener, a citizen officer, who with his group of inmate assistants, cares also for the garden, the numerous lawn shrubs, etc.

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In writing the foregoing portion of Part One of the Reformatory Hand Book, our aim has been to furnish, in compact form, more definite information of the reformatory and its methods than could be conveniently included in the usual annual report. In the preceding pages, after briefly reviewing the history of the reformatory, we have endeavored to describe with considerable attention to detail, the institution and its administration. It is our purpose to conclude Part One with a narrative of the imaginary experiences of a New York city lad, from the time of his reception at the reformatory, until the day of his release by parole, and return to his native town.





*"The team.....was presently climbing the hill leading to the southern gate of the reformatory."—Page 71*



**THE**  
**INSTITUTIONAL EXPERIENCES OF PETER LUCKEY**

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

**F. C. ALLEN**

He came, with eight others, on the afternoon train from New York. Shabbily dressed, not very clean, his appearance advertised him for what he was, an "East Sider." His sullen eyes noted but little of his surroundings; his listless air evidenced slight concern for his present condition, or hope for the future. Not much had there been in his life of sixteen years to incite to honest living or elevated ideals of conduct. He had small knowledge of books, and little desire or ability for sustained effort of any description. Orphaned, nearly five years since, his reception in his aunt's family was not over cordial; hence, left in large measure to shift for himself, he easily drifted into bad company. In a moment of temptation, he took that which was

not his, and as a consequence of his wrong doing was now on his way to the reformatory.

Upon the coat of the athletic young man who had charge of the group, appeared the badge of a transfer officer of the New York State Reformatory at Elmira. Standing upon the platform of the station with his prisoners, he was first to note the approach of a team of blacks, attached to a light, three-seated spring wagon, and driven by a blue coated official.

"All right, boys, there's our hack; tumble in!" said the transfer officer.

The team steadily jogged homeward and was presently climbing the hill leading to the southern gate of the reformatory. The stern appearing

prison structure with its massive, turretted, enclosure walls, by its very nearness, forced the boy's attention and he glanced up at it.

Although habituated to environments the reverse of favorable to honest and virtuous living, he had still to fulfil his first sentence as a convicted criminal, and he instinctively recoiled as he looked at the institution, high and gloomy in the fading light of the short, November afternoon.

The van arrived at the gateway. The transfer officer exchanged cheerful greetings with the wall guard, as the latter operated the mechanism of the gate. The boy, listening, envied these two, over whom hovered not the dark cloud which seemed to him to be approaching more closely with each revolution of the cogged, gate wheel. One, two hours would elapse; then these men would be stepping briskly homeward through the lighted streets, free and happy, while he—but the great valves of the gate opened, the driver chirruped to his team and the van moved leisurely into the prison enclosure.

The boy's senses were now alert and he glanced quickly and anxiously at his surroundings. Iron gates, brick walls, everywhere. The gate through which the team had just passed, creaked as it was being closed; he looked back apprehensively and was not reassured as he saw it steadily decreasing his perspective of the outside world and freedom. Then it was closed, and he felt indeed in evil case. Again he noted the inexorable brick walls. Five years in this enclosure of brick and stone and iron! To a lad of sixteen, five years seem an interminable period of time. Would he ever live through them?

Another sinister looking gate, a combination of iron rods and bars, opened and closed upon them, and, as the van moved under the great, gloomy central arch forming the entrance to that portion of the enclosure known as the parade ground, the lad felt that he could scarcely hope ever to step forth to freedom again.

An open door, and beside it a pleasant faced, blue uniformed officer who glanced compre-

hendingly at the party, indicated that the travellers were expected.

"Only eight? — pretty slim for Saturday and coming on cold weather too;" he remarked casually to the transfer officer.

"All there was," briefly responded that official. "Lads, this is where you lodge tonight. Climb out!"

"There, there, Luckey, don't look so blue!" he continued, encouragingly patting the lad on the shoulder as the group of prisoners, one by one jumped from the wagon. "Elmira isn't so bad if you look sharp and mind the regulations. Squad, move on!"

Presently they were in a large room, with wire screened apartments where men were busy, working at account books and sorting clothing. The electric lights were already alight. Peter Luckey stood, awkwardly looking about him. The transfer officer, after conversing in a low tone for a few moments with the store room clerk (the officer

who had met them at the outer door) took his departure.

The clerk turned briskly to Luckey, who chanced to be standing nearest him.

"Here, boy, quick!" he commanded: "Off with your clothes and place them in a pile over by the screen there."

The boy hastened to comply. After a hurried examination by the clerk, the raiment of Peter Luckey was consigned to a pile of garments which eventually found a Gehenna in one of the furnaces at the institutional power house. The clerk searched the lad's pockets, and a few pennies and a button photo, found therein, were placed in an envelope, inscribed with the owner's name and consecutive number.

"We'll keep these for you, lad. What is your name?" inquired the clerk.

"Peter Luckey," was the reply.

"All right, Luckey, when you go home these things will be returned to you. Now stand one

side and make room for the next man. You—there — with the curly hair—come over here!”

A short time sufficed to subject the rest of the prisoners to a like process; then all were conducted to the bath room. Ten minutes beneath the warm spray, with a vigorous application of soap and towel; and they were returned to the store room and a complete new suit, including underwear, cap and shoes, furnished each of them, together with a number of other useful articles. Luckey was quite impressed with the magnitude of his possessions which included a blanket, sheets, towels, a wash-basin, various brushes, broom, dust-pan—a whole armful of property. He put on his clothes and stood watching with interest the deft motions of one of the clerk's assistants, a prisoner, he concluded, by his dress, which was identical with his own. Glancing about he noticed that all the assistants were similarly attired. If he could only have some such pleasant employment as have these boys, he

thought, imprisonment might not be so bad as he imagined.

But he was particularly interested in the boy he had first noticed, who was a barber and had been busily plying his vocation upon several of the new arrivals whose beards required this attention, and had just finished the last one. How foolish, thought Peter, that a young fellow so skillful, should allow himself to commit crime sufficient to incur imprisonment.

“Dat’s a smart barber!” he ventured to say to the store room clerk.

“Learned all he knows about it here;” was the terse response as the officer turned away to “line up” the prisoners for the march to their rooms.

Peter's mind was so occupied with the thought of the quick, graceful motions of the barber; the apparent ease with which he accomplished his work; and of the pleasant, contented faces of all the prisoner assistants, that he but carelessly noted the passage of the party through long, high, wide corridors, with lofty, barred windows and hundreds

of cells rising tier upon tier to the vaulted ceiling.

He was startled when the officer suddenly plucked him by the shoulder and steered him up the iron stairway leading to the second tier of cells. Midway of a gallery extending along this row of rooms the squad was halted.

"Man at the head of the squad, drop out! — The one at the left—that's the one! Look on the inside of your cap and you'll find your consecutive number. Drop out and go into this room."

"'Tank yer, sir." said Peter, mechanically. He stepped gingerly upon the one stone step, and passed through the narrow doorway. Clang! went the door, closing behind him. Creak—the key turned in the lock.

Onward moved the squad, and he was left alone.

While not absolutely his first experience of being locked in a cell, as he had passed several days in the New York city prison after he was arrested; nevertheless, the closing of the cell door carried

with it an impression of finality, most depressing to Peter Luckey.

He gloomily seated himself on his small, iron bedstead and meditated about many things. How he wished for the power to render himself invisible, that he might so place himself outside those walls. On the other hand, he reluctantly admitted certain improved physical conditions. He was clean, decently clothed, warm — better off, in many ways than he had been for a good while. Still—

He heard the steps of the officer, returning after locking the other prisoners in their respective cells.

"Why do you sit, moping in the dark? Light your light!" he called briskly in at the door.

"I didn't know as I had none. Oh, yes, sir, I see it now." Peter turned the button of a small electric bulb suspended by a cord from the centre of the ceiling, instantly flooding the room with light,

"Now, jump up, quick and make up your bed and place your things in the cupboard, there.

When the nine o'clock bugle blows, you must turn out your light and get into bed. If your light is burning after nine, you will hear from it," tersely concluded the officer. "Good night, boy."

"Good night, sir." The officer moved away. Peter Luckey commenced, awkwardly enough, to arrange his possessions. At the side of his room, opposite the door, was a wooden cupboard, on the shelves of which he placed several of the articles. Clumsily he spread his sheets and blanket on the mattress lying on the bedstead, placing the pillow-slip on a pillow which he also found there.

Presently an officer appeared bearing a tray containing food and drink. Peter, realizing all at once that he was hungry, did full justice to the plain but wholesome fare. Then, feeling utterly wearied with the day's excitement, waited not for the signal for retiring, but got into bed at once, not forgetting to turn out the light, and fell asleep almost as his head touched the pillow.

## II

He was awakened by the loud, clear blast of the

morning bugle echoing through the corridor. As he was bathing his face at a lavatory placed in a corner of the room, he heard another bugle note and rapid footsteps on the gallery outside. Going to his door he was soon much interested in watching a long line of boys of about his own age file past, and concluded, from the tumult of steps, sounding from near and far, that all the prisoners must be going to breakfast.

Quiet was soon restored, however. The boys ceased to pass his door. The officer brought him his matutinal refreshment. After breakfast he returned to the door and stood for some time, looking out. His cell was so located that he could not see the floor of the corridor, but directly opposite him was one of the great, barred windows, through which he could observe a portion of the paved yard of the prison enclosure and the tall brick buildings bounding its farther side. This was evidently the enclosure through which he had been conveyed the previous evening. Through the open

window, sparrows fluttered in and out fearlessly. How he envied them!

Footsteps again in the gallery. A trim looking young officer, tall, and straight as an arrow unlocked the door and bade him follow. Along the gallery they went, down stairs, along corridors, up more stairs, finally joining his associates of the evening before in a large, pleasant room having an inner door communicating with the superintendent's office.

Clad in uniform of sober fashion—black coats, gray trousers, and caps without visors, the group would hardly be recognized as the arrivals of the previous day.

"Wot's dis for?" Peter finally whispered to a young fellow beside him.

"Don't know, guess we're goin' before de high guy" was the answer. "Say, young feller, if he asks yer if yer can read and write, tell him 'No.'"

"Wot's de use of"—

"Cut out that chinning!" sharply chided the officer in charge. Peter had no further

chance to question, but he did not forget the incident.

The door of the superintendent's office opened. "Consecutive Number 12,345—Luckey—where are you? Oh, there—come into the superintendent's office;" said a rather good looking boy, clad in a prisoner's uniform, but with a band marked "Messenger" attached to his cap, who came from the inner room.

A little excited, embarrassed, and, if the truth were known frightened as well, Peter Luckey edged his way from among his fellow prisoners and was conducted through the open door, which the messenger closed behind him.

A kindly faced gentleman, sitting at a desk, glanced keenly at him, as he entered. The superintendent, for it was he, motioned the lad to a seat facing him, while he examined for a moment a paper lying upon the desk. Seated at another desk near, was his inmate assistant, a stenographer who had learned the art in the institution. In the window were growing plants. On the walls

hung several pictures of elderly, thoughtful looking gentlemen, who, to Peter's mind, appeared to regard him with distinct disapproval and severity.

The superintendent looked up. "What's your name, lad?" he crisply demanded.

"Peter Luckey, sir," the boy answered.

"How did you come to be sent here, Peter?"

Peter fumbled with his cap a moment. "Me an' a feller was workin' 'round a power house on de east side," he finally said; "One night we took some copper wire out of de store room. About a week after dat, I guess it was, I was chewin' wid a feller about sumthin' and a cop come up and pinched me".

"What became of the wire—did you sell it?"

"No, sir— hid it under a lumber pile near de track—on an empty lot, it was. Me an' de udder guy had it fixed to go for it and sell it after a while."

"Ever arrested before?"

"Once before."

"How was that?"

"About a year ago, dat was, Boss. I tried to git a bundle out of de back of a wagon."

"What did you get out of that?"

"Not'n. The Judge — Judge Greene, it was; he talked to me awhile and let me go."

"What do you do for a living? Did you stay at home?"

"I staid to me aunt Kate's some—not all de time. I staid where I could."

"Are your father and mother dead?"

"Yes, sir; five years ago, I guess; I don't know exactly when it was. I had to work 'round at anyting I could git; I worked for two or tree mont's for de power house; I didn't git much wages."

"Do you drink, smoke, or chew?"

"No, sir; I chew some."

"A glass of beer—with the other boys? You'd take that, wouldn't you?"

"Yes sir."

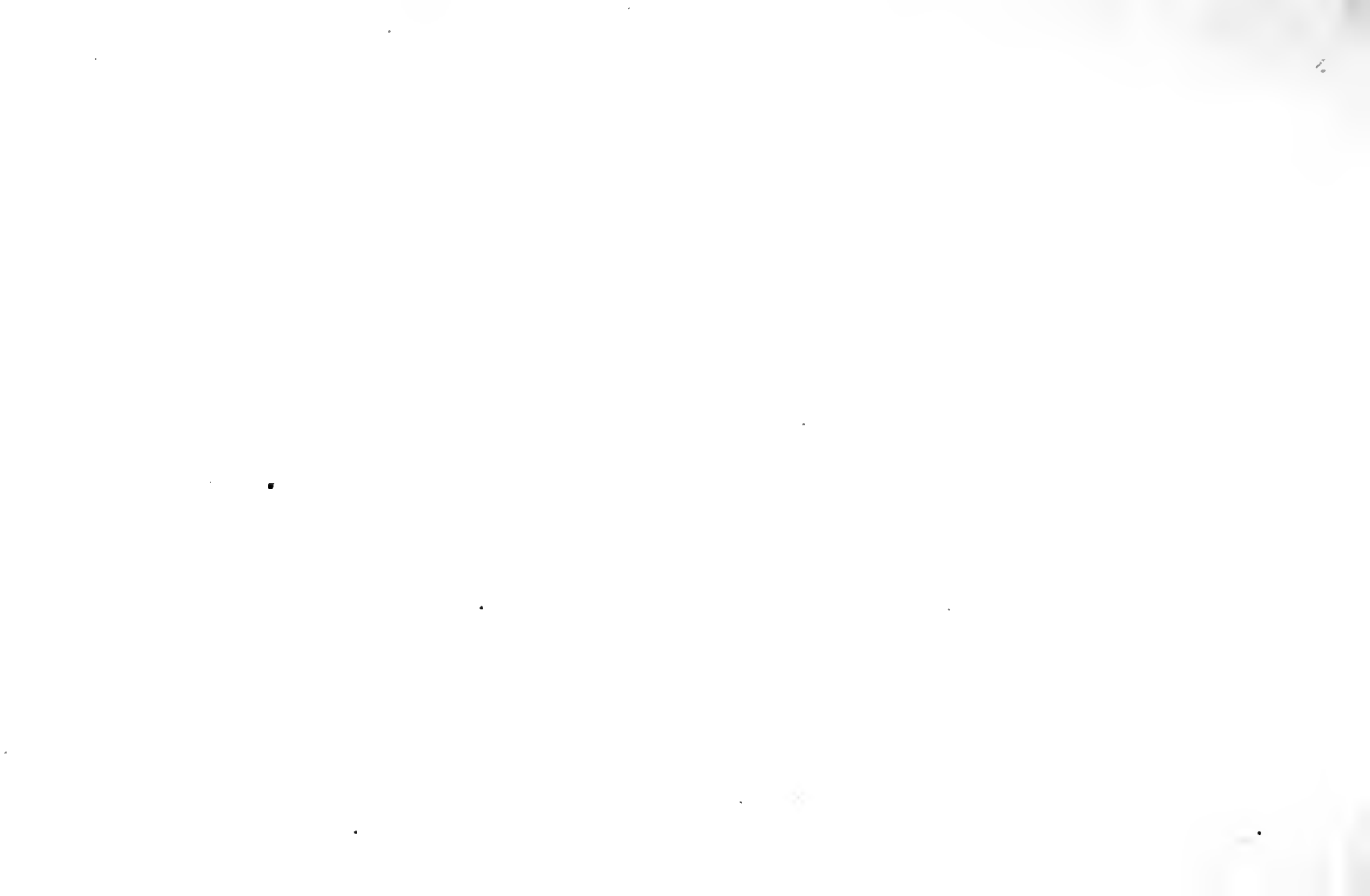
"Luckey, can you add numbers?"





*"One night we took some copper wire."*—Page 78.

(Assistant Superintendent's Office)



"Add numbers? No, sir, I am very bad at dat."

"How much are fifteen and ten?"

"Fifteen and ten, sir? Twenty-five sir."

"Can you do multiplication?" "No, sir."

"How much are five times seven?"

"How much?" Thirty-five, sir."

"How about division? How many times will five go in twenty?"

"Four times."

"How many times will twenty go in sixty?"

"I can't tell dat, sir."

"Can you read and write?" "No, sir."

"Pickaxe" said the superintendent, addressing his clerk. "You may put this boy down in arithmetic as far as division."

"Have you any disease about you, Luckey?" asked the superintendent.

"Disease? No, sir; I ain't got no disease."

"What's your father's name, Peter?"

"Benjamin Luckey, sir."

"And your mother's?"

"Elizabeth Greefe, sir."

"Luckey and Greefe! A case of second husband I suppose?"

"No, sir."

"No? How interesting! Third, perhaps?"

"Yes, sir."

"I am inclined to think, Peter, that it runs in your family, and I will venture a guess that you are married, yourself. Is it not so?"

"No, sir, I ain't married nor I don't want to be."

"So there's another of my logical inferences gone astray, making an added argument against the theory of heredity. Peter Luckey?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did your father know how to read and write?"

"I don't know, sir, I don't tink so."

"Did your mother?"

"Yes, sir, I tink she did."

"Did your father or mother drink?"

"Me fadder got drunk sometimes; me mudder didn't drink none."

"Have you brothers or sisters, uncles or aunts?"

"No, sir, I had an uncle; he lived over in Flatbush; he moved away quite a while ago; I tink he went to New Jersey somewhere; I don't know where he lives now. I tink it was Passaic he went to; he was a carpenter. Luke Luckey was his name. I hain't heard from him since he moved away. I got an aunt; she lives at—18th Street; she's married; her name is Sugeree—Kate Sugeree. Her man's a cab driver."

"Have you no other relatives?"

"I dunno of any sir."

"What is your religious belief, Peter?"

"I dunno, sir."

"Are you a Catholic?"

"No, sir."

"Well, you may go over to the clerk's desk and sign your name to a paper he will give you, which will authorize me to open any letters which may come here for you; otherwise we shall have to hold

the letters here, unopened, until your release from the reformatory."

Peter Luckey went readily enough, and scrawled his name on the paper indicated. The superintendent smiled.

"Didn't you tell me you couldn't write, Peter?"

The boy looked crestfallen.

"I lied to you sir," he said. "I can read too, a little."

"Of course you lied, Peter Luckey. Now, don't do it again; that's all. Stick to the truth and you will always get on better. You will in due time be assigned to learn a trade here and will also be placed in the school. You will likewise be trained in military exercises. In these various departments you will be expected to do your best to learn and to obey the rules. If you try, there is no reason why you should not get along well, and eventually earn your release. Pickaxe, bring in 12,346-Nicholas Settel."

## III

In good time the next morning, Luckey was again summoned to join his comrades of the previous day, now gathered in a group in the corridor, outside the physician's office. Peter's acquaintance of yesterday, whose name he now knew to be Settel-12,346, sidled up to him.

"Did yer work dat racket?" he whispered behind his hand.

"I tried it but it didn't go. He fooled me before he got troo wid me."

"Dat settles you. Youse'll get put in a higher class den me and you'll have to work to get your lessons;—see? You was easy;—see? I fooled him all rite, all rite. I can read and write and figure some. You was dead easy."

Naturally somewhat depressed at his evident lack of mental astuteness, Peter stood, thinking about the matter, when a messenger standing at the doctor's door, touched his arm; "The doctor's ready for you," he said.

The office of the physician included in its equipment, scales for weighing the prisoner, an appliance by which to ascertain his height, and a printed card, fastened to the wall, for use in testing his eyes.

"Remove your clothes, boy;" briefly directed the doctor, who was seated at his desk; while at another, his clerk waited with a printed form ready placed in his writing machine, on which was to be typed the record of the prisoner's physical examination.

Presently Peter stepped forth in a state of nature. His weight, and height, together with his name and consecutive number were ascertained by an assistant, and quickly recorded on the blank form, by the clerk, who then proceeded to ask various questions, reading from the printed form before him, and typing the answers thereon as they were given by the prisoner. The questions included inquiries as to the prisoner's habits regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco, opium, chloral, etc.; likewise questions in reference to his father, mother, sisters and brothers; if living, their state of health;

if dead, the cause of death, and the age at death; also as to whether there existed in his family, a record of consumption, insanity, epilepsy, or other hereditary disease. Inquiry was made as to whether the prisoner had ever received a severe injury, and if so, of what nature; and if he had, at that time, any disease, and if so, what were its present symptoms.

"All right, now step over there to the doctor's desk," said the clerk, briskly.

Peter complied with this request and found himself facing a rosy cheeked young man with a cheerfully gloomy expression who interrogated him as follows:

"Do you ever have any trouble with your heart or lungs, boy?"

"No, sir."

"Draw in deep, full breaths and keep doing it."

The physician took from his table a stethoscope and adjusting the ear-pieces, made a thorough examination of the prisoner's chest by placing the instrument upon different portions of it. Then,

laying the stethoscope aside, and taking a small, rubber-tipped mallet, concluded his examination of the chest by repeatedly tapping upon it with the mallet, interposing his finger in such a manner that the latter received the direct impact of the mallet by being placed over that portion of the chest which the physician desired to test. When he was at length satisfied upon these points, he dictated rapidly to the waiting clerk:

"Heart and lungs, normal."

"Now, my lad, open your mouth—wide."

A quick glance at the inside of the mouth; then the doctor queried:

"Can you hear all right?"

"Yes, sir," answered Peter.

"Teeth, poor—hearing, normal," dictated the physician.

"Ever have any trouble with your eyes—can you see good?" was the next question.

"I guess not; I can see pretty good."

"Step over there to the other side of the

room—further back—so. Now let me hear you read this line of letters.”

“L—T—C—P—T, no, F, no, L—”

“Put your hand over your right eye;” interrupted the doctor. “Now read.”

“L—F—O”—

“That’ll do. Put your hand over your left eye. Now try.”

“I can’t read that way, sir.”

“All right. Eyesight, defective;” was the concluding dictation to the clerk. The record being complete, the prisoner was directed to resume his clothes and take his place with those outside and the next man was summoned.

As soon as the doctor had finished with the group, a tall officer with a red mustache arrived, and, taking charge of the squad of newcomers, conducted them out of the building in which they were, across the yard, into another building and then, upstairs and upstairs to the top of a high narrow structure where, in a small room, adjoining the photograph gallery, they waited to have their

pictures taken and to be measured according to the Bertillon identification system.

An inmate barber, whom Peter soon recognized as his hero of the store room, arrived, in charge of a messenger, and was soon busily plying his trade upon one or another of the group. Beyond the barber’s chair, Peter could see the open door of the photograph gallery, with screens placed just inside, so that nothing could be observed of the operations of the photographer. Presently a voice emanated from behind the screen:

“12,345—Luckey!”

“Which is Luckey?” sharply queried the officer with the red mustache. “Oh, that’s you is it?” “Come now, be lively and take that coat off. Now fix this around your neck. Here, put this other coat on. Now you look like a dude. Slide in there and get your picture taken!”

Meanwhile, Peter Luckey, divesting himself of his coat, was supplied with a collar and necktie, combined with an adjustable shirt front, all of which were suitably arranged over his regulation

shirt. A black coat completed the temporary outfit. These changes served to transform the prisoner, in so far as outward appearance was concerned, into a free citizen again.

Upon entering the room he was expeditiously placed in a chair standing on a low platform which had a pivot arrangement allowing the occupant to be placed in a position, either facing, or with his side face, turned to the camera. Thus, the photographer by changing the position of his picture-plate, or negative, was able to obtain both a front and side view of the prisoner with ease and quickness.

As soon as Luckey was seated, an inmate assistant approached him and deftly attached to the front of his coat a stencil, showing his Bertillon letter and number; this, when subsequently photographed with the prisoner, would furnish, in conjunction with the Bertillon measurements afterward obtained and placed on the photograph card, an effectual means of future identification, in the event of his escape from the institution, or of his

being wanted by the peace authorities after his release from the reformatory.

The photographer, large and portly, now approached.

"Sit back in your chair—hold up your chin,—so! Get your eyes open and fix them on the camera—steady!—all right. Now stay in the chair. Slater, turn him 'round. Now boy, look straight at that spot on the window curtain—steady—all right. Now step down."

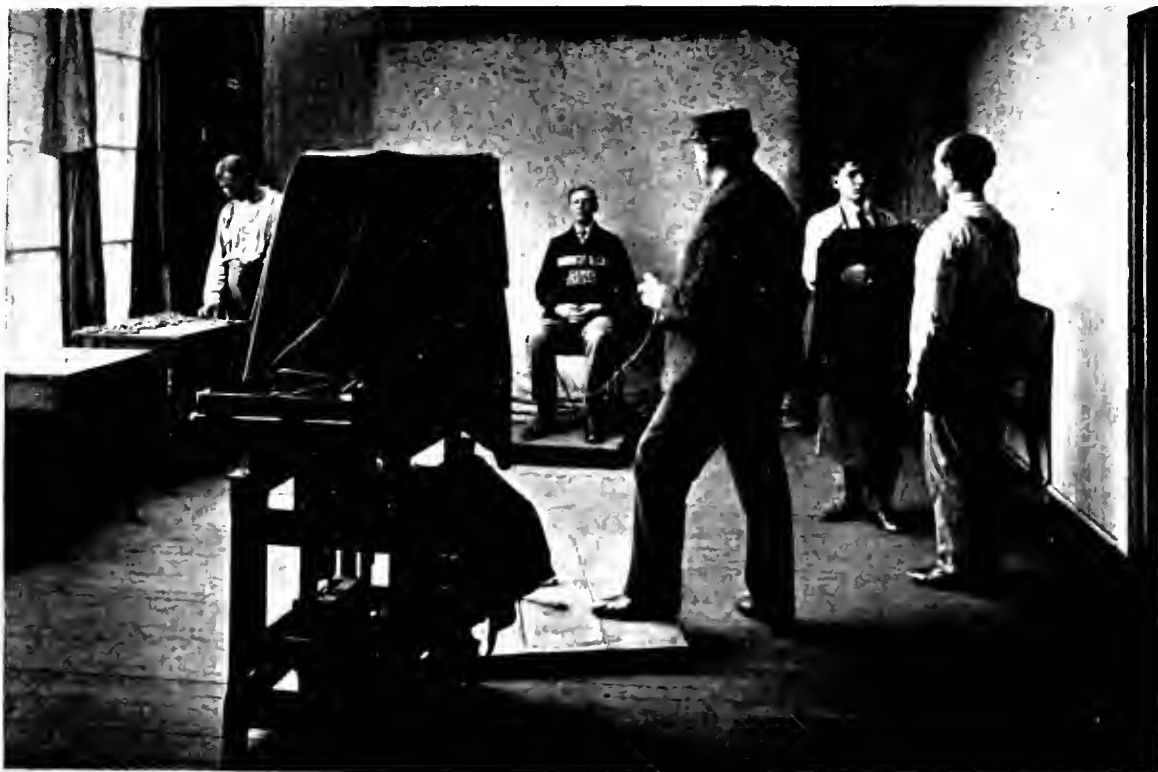
"Call the next man;" he continued, handing the negative to an assistant who conveyed it to the "dark room" for development.

Luckey waited outside while the others were being photographed. When Nicholas Settel came back after taking his turn he found an opportunity to say to Peter:

"Gee! De pickchur feller said he'd slap me in de guardhouse if I didn't cut out me chinnin'—I cut it out—just in time; too!" He says: "dis ain't de bowery, young feller!" "I guess dat's right too."

At length the photographing of the group was





*"Sit back in your chair—hold up your chin—so!"—Page 84.*



completed. Then Peter Luckey was again summoned, this time to another room where were arranged the various apparatus for taking the Bertillon measurements and making the examinations incident to same. The measurements included, in addition to his height, the length of the forearm, fingers, feet, ear; and by means of calipers, finely graduated, the measurements of his head were also taken; these included width, distance from ear to top of head, from ear to back of head, etc. He was required to sit in a chair and the distance from chair seat, to crown of head was recorded. By comparison with colored charts conveniently suspended upon the wall, the exact color of different portions of the eye was ascertained. The quality of complexion was likewise noted, together with all peculiar markings of the skin, as, moles, scars, tattoos, or any unusual discoloration.

The photographer, who is also the Bertillon measurer, dictated the result of his examination to his inmate Bertillon clerk, the technical nomenclature of the system being readily understood by the

latter, who entered same in a book kept for the purpose; the complete data being ultimately printed upon a Bertillon card, containing also the two photographic views of the prisoner, previously taken.

"Now Luckey," said the measurer, in concluding his examination, "Stand here, on this box." He turned the boy slowly about, scanning him for any additional peculiarities of physique. At length, apparently satisfied, he said with a humorous twinkle of the eye: "Flat-footed—knock-kneed—go dress yourself!" and Peter proceeded to resume his garments amid a ripple of laughter from the assistants.

#### IV

Morning again at the reformatory. Arising betimes, Peter again interested himself in listening to the shrill voice of the bugle and the answering tread of marching feet as the prisoners passed and repassed his door in the course of the usual morning turnouts. He hoped he would soon be allowed to

take his place in the lines and eat with the others, in the dining room. After the prisoners were gone he watched the sparrows awhile. At length the peculiar grating sound of the door brake interrupted his meditations and the officer appeared with his morning meal.

After breakfast he seated himself upon the bed. Noting its tumbled condition, he determined to make it up; this he had neglected to do on the previous day, considering it a matter of minor importance. He then proceeded to set his room generally to rights and was enjoying a consciousness of well doing, novel, but not unpleasant, when the door brake again creaked; footsteps approached, the key was turned, and he was summoned, this time to appear for interview with the director of the trades school.

As he joined the usual group, the loquacious Nicholas, ever ready with advice or suggestion, found an opportunity to whisper:

"A guy told me in de city dat de easiest job up here wuz sign paintin'—a cinch, sure 'nuff, he says.

You ask him fer dat, see? I'm goin' to make a stab fer it all rite, all rite."

This sage advice was as seed sown upon good ground. Peter, like most of his class, saw nothing attractive in work. So he instantly resolved to act upon the suggestion of his friend.

The director of trades schools, precise and methodical of appearance, looked judicially at Peter and said:

"Stand a little further over to the right, there, where I can see your face. Now, take your cap off."

Peter was asked a great many questions as to his previous habits of life, occupations, education, etc., the trades school director concluding with the query:

"Well, is there any particular trade you would like to learn while you are here? There are vacancies in"—consulting a printed list on his desk—"in the blacksmithing, bricklaying, and carpentry classes."

The boy, after a suitable pause for contemplation, said:

"I'd like to learn sign paintin'.

The director regarded him with a cynical smile.

"The class is full;" he remarked, curtly. "I conclude, from your description of your former habits, and from my general observation of you, that what you need is good, wholesome manual labor, with the opportunity and necessity for the development of habits of sustained, intelligent effort along prescribed lines requiring not too acute mental processes. I shall therefore recommend your assignment to the bricklaying class. Bring the next man."

Nicholas Settel was called in for interview with the director and returned to his place in the group, without comment.

Peter sidled up to him.

"Wot'd yer git?" he asked with a grin.

"What?" Settel looked up absent mindedly.

Then, making a wry face:

"Bricklayin' is wot I got. De guy said me

dukes looked better hold of a trowel den a razor. I sprung barberin' on him. I guess he's on to us, all rite, all rite."

"I wonder who's de next guy we'll go before."

"I dunno. Some feller said de school superintendent."

"Bet yer dollar he gits wise to yer spiel same as dis one;" jeeringly remarked Peter.

"Make it ten an' I'll take yer;" loftily returned Nicholas Settel.

The sharp reprimand of the officer in charge, cut short the conversation.

At length the director of trades school finished his examination of the group, recommending the assignment of each inmate to the trade which in the director's judgment appeared best suited to the prisoner's natural ability and the conditions under which he lived, previous to his imprisonment. In the course of the interviews the director dictated from time to time, to his inmate stenographer, data in regard to each man appearing before him, to be in due time properly transcribed and entered upon

the records of the trades school office for future reference.

Ten o'clock of the next morning found Luckey and his companions in the presence of the school director, a serious looking gentleman with a slight Harvard accent. He directed the prisoners to seat themselves at a long table, and as they were so doing, Luckey noticed that his friend Settel was absent from the group. An inmate assistant distributed writing materials.

"Now, boys," said the school director; "you may each of you write a letter home. Direct your letter to some member of your own family; do not write anything about getting a pardon; nor anything regarding criminals, nor crime. Just write a good, family letter. Tell them about your trip up here; how soon you expect to earn a parole and get home again, and things like that."

Luckey took the pen clumsily, dipped it in the ink and then—a great wave of homesickness swept over him as he tried to collect his thoughts and decide to whom he should write. Intensely desir-

able seemed the sunny nooks of the east side, and greatly did he long to be back in good old New York!

Someone entered. Luckey looked up and noticed that it was Settel, just arrived, in charge of an inmate messenger. The school director motioned him to a seat at the table.

"Here, my lad, sit down over on this side. Here are pen, ink and paper. Write a letter home and tell your people how you are. They will be glad to hear from you and after a while you will be allowed to receive a reply from them.

"Mister, I dunno how to"—Nicholas stopped short. In his room that very morning he had been thinking how the baby brother looked at home—little Bobs who had such a cunning way of grabbing the grimy finger of his big brother, wriggling his small legs and gazing up with the most knowing look imaginable on his little round face. Nicholas gave up. He finished his sentence rather lamely:

"Dunno how to 'rite very good, sir."

"No matter, lad; do as well as you can. We're

none of us perfect writers. Hurry up, now; you came late you know, and some of the boys are through already."

Luckey had been an interested listener. He grinned a little at the collapse of Nicholas Settel's boasted plan of causing himself to be placed among the beginners in the school. But he was soon cautioned by the school director to make haste with his writing, and finally decided to write to his aunt Kate, as being the only relative whose address he knew. Once more dipping his pen in the ink, he scrawled as follows:

"Aunt Kate. i got here all rite. how is de folks in de city. i wish i wuz back dere. i don't like it very well here. maybe i will like it beter when i am here a wile. some tings aint very bad here. But i am frade i will hav to work pritty hard. de boss says i kin git back dere in a year or so. i hope i ken. i wood like to see you and de house and evryting. i guess mabe i will see if i kin git along here. i wish you wood see Shorty and git dat coat i giv him and you keep it fur me. good bye." "Peter Luckey."

Luckey and Settel finished their letters at about the same time, and were told to join the other prisoners who were by this time seated at the back part of the room.

One by one, the members of the group were summoned to the desk of the school director, for interview. Presently it was Peter's turn.

"Your name is Peter Luckey?"

"Yes sir."

"Where were you born and brought up?"

"In New York, sir."

"Never went to school much, did you?" queried the school director, glancing at Peter's letter which he had selected from the pile before him.

"No, not much; I went a little—not fur four or five years."

"A Protestant school?"

"Yes, sir."

"What have you been doing since you stopped going to school?"

"I done wot I could find to do; I worked fur de railroad shops, some."

"I don't believe you like to work very well, do you?"

"Why, yes, sir, pretty well."

"Did you like to go to school?"

"Yes, sir, I liked dat, but I had ter quit and shift fur meself when me folks died; I forgot most dat I learned den.

"Well, Smith, most of us have forgotten enough to fill a book. How far did you get when you left school?"

"Not very fur; I could read and write pretty well and figure some. I can multiply numbers and add. I don't believe I could divide much."

"Did you ever work at anything at which you had to think much — write, or add a little, or anything like that?"

"No, sir."

"Could you take up a newspaper and read and understand it?"

"Oh, yes, I could read dat some."

"What paper do you read most?"

"Read most? De Journal."

"All right, my boy that will do. Go back to your seat."

After interviewing each of the group the school director said:

"Now, men, you will begin to go to school soon — on Mondays and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, the school sessions are held. You will be placed in classes where you will learn something if you try. If you are lazy and don't work, your school will bother you some. Pay close attention to your teachers, study in your rooms and you will not have much trouble. Get all you can out of the State of New York, while you are here. Keep the slips which I will give you; they will tell you where to go to school if you forget. If you want a bible or prayer book, write me a note and drop it in the box which you will be shown, and I will receive it and send you the book. You will be allowed other books to read. We want you to read them and get the good out of them. Always keep the book in your room, and keep the card in the book. You may tell the officer in the



morning that you want a book. We will send you the first one; after that, you may choose your own.

I hope that each of you boys will be better able to care for yourself when you leave, than you now are.

Now, when I call your names you may come forward and get what I have for you. 12,345 Luckey."

"Luckey," continued the director; "here is a list of books from which you can select when sending for a library book. Here, also, is a copy of the multiplication table which you had better take with you, to brush up, on. Here, too, is a table of American weights and measures which you would best become familiar with. My clerk will presently furnish you with a lead pencil, a couple of pads of paper, and a slate pencil. When you are in the school room a slate will be furnished you to use during the class session; but this is not to be taken to your room. Now you may take your place again."

Each of the group received practically the same

articles of school equipment. The school director issued a few additional instructions, and the prisoners, under the charge of a citizen officer, returned to their rooms.

## V

"-eight-two-three-four—Left! One-two-three-four, two-two-three-four—Hold!"

"You men in the third squad—watch the guide—watch the guide! Remember, he is facing you—if he bends to the right, you bend to the left. On the count, move your head to the left—the next count, bring it back to attention—so! One-two! One-two! Do you see?"

Attention! Second series! Hand, wrist and forearm! One-and-two-and-three-and-four—"

Incisive, continuous, it seemed to Peter Luckey that the counting would never leave off. Backward and forward, up and down his limbs moved, in awkward imitation of the precise and graceful movements of the guides. Up and down, backward and forward, till he ached from the unusual motion.

Peter didn't like the awkward squad; he was very sure of that. The military instructor was too particular; things had to be done just so. Peter wasn't accustomed to movements of precision, or in fact, precision in any form, and he felt disgruntled and mad.

At length the calisthenics, or "setting up" exercises as they were termed, came to an end; hats and coats were resumed and the squad stood at ease.

A messenger came hurriedly into the armory and approaching the military instructor, touched his cap. Receiving the officer's salute in return, he handed him a slip of paper. The latter glanced at it.

"12,346-Settel—Report here!" commanded the instructor. "Settel;" he continued, when the boy had appeared before him. "Go with this messenger. You are wanted at the disciplinary office."

"Sergeant Reilly, the third squad—Wright, the second—Osborne, the first. Reilly, I see you have several brand-new men this morning. Bear,

and forbear!" The military instructor walked away toward the equipment room.

The new arrivals—twenty or more—were soon hard at work in a remote corner of the armory, while the remaining groups of the awkward squad, graded according to proficiency, were located in other portions of the big room, at sufficient distance from each other to avoid confusion of orders.

Very soon Peter wished with all his heart that he were back again doing "setting up" exercises.

In obedience to an order, the group started to walk a short distance toward the center of the armory. Unfortunate Peter, laboriously painstaking, thrust his right (not in this instance his best) foot foremost at the word of command.

"Change shtep—you, there—change shtep! Ain't ye afther knowin' yer right fut from yer left? Squad—halt!—Now—you, there—yer left fut forrud at the wurrud 'March!' Moind phwat's goin' on whin I say 'Furrud,' and whin I say

'March!' thot means that yer *left* fut's to move furst.

"Squad, attention! Forrud—march!"

This time Peter stepped out firmly with his left foot foremost; his zeal out-jumping his discretion, however, he unconsciously lengthened his stride, which soon caused him to stumble against the man ahead, bringing forth another sharp reprimand from his commanding officer. The group marched about thirty feet further when their meditations were interrupted by the sudden order:

"Squad, left—march!"

"Squad—halt! Phwat koind of marchin' d'ye call thot?" disgustedly exclaimed Sergeant Reilly, looking daggers at Peter who had "walked around" the corner in his easy, "east side" fashion.

"Why shud ye be afther wearin' yer shoes out gittin' 'round a corner in thot shtyle? Now watch how I do it. Squad, right—march—one-two-three-four. Squad, left—march—one-two-three-four. That way—d'ye see? Yes? all right."

"Squad, attention—Forrud—march!"

"Squad—halt! Now men, whin I say 'Squad,' kape yer moind on phwat ye're doin' an' whin I say 'Halt, ye're to shtop on the second count afther—this way. Squad, halt—one-two. Squad, halt—one-two."

"Squad, attention! Forrud—march! Hip—hip—hip—hip—"

And so on, seemingly *ad infinitum*, until the magic hour of 11.30 when the hearts of all the awkward squad were gladdened by the signal for dinner.

A hearty dinner did much toward soothing Peter's ruffled feelings, especially as this was his first meal with the other prisoners, in the general dining room. The food was abundant, and neatly served. On this particular day they had roast beef, potatoes, bread and coffee. Peter understood that the food would be varied for the different days of the week. He ate his beef from a tin plate; drank his coffee from a tin cup. He had likewise, a steel

knife and fork and a pewter spoon, for further aid and comfort in gustatory operations.

He was not allowed to talk aloud, or even whisper to his neighbors at table. But he had heard that if he behaved well, and strove to make good progress in his school and trade work he might in due time earn the right to eat in another dining room where he could not only obtain better fare, but enjoy the very desirable privilege of conversing with the others. This, he could see, would make it very fine indeed.

After returning from the armory, the prisoners had been allowed to go to their rooms for a few minutes, in accordance with the usual custom, and wait for the dinner bugle to sound. On his way to the dining room, Peter had observed with interest several big trucks, laden with capacious tin tureens and platters which were being trundled back to the kitchen after discharging their freight of eatables at the dining tables. He met also, several assistants bearing huge tin cans, like water sprinklers, used for serving coffee.

While Peter ate, he watched curiously the long

lines of faces, most of them pleasant enough; some of them glum; nearly all doing ample justice to the fare. He also noted that the walls looked very white and clean, as did also the tables. He wondered how many there were in the dining room and was just about to ask the man next him when he caught a warning look from the blue coated officer at the end of the table and wisely held his peace.

In half an hour the after dinner bugle sounded. Its note jarred upon Peter. The call seemed not nearly so musical, as had its predecessor. He had eaten his fill; but he did not feel like moving. However, there appeared no other way. So he got up with the others and was soon in the lines, marching toward the shops and the afternoon's work.

As the lines were passing through the central archway, a sprightly, gray haired old gentleman, in the uniform of a trade instructor, stood near the entrance, giving emphatic instructions to an inmate, apparently one of his assistants, who he

a tin pot containing a yellowish substance, which looked like varnish. Peter heard a tall young officer, standing by, remark quizzically to a comrade:

"Pop Keuwler's soap!"

"Sure death to hogs—don't touch it!" exclaimed the old gentleman, turning on the speaker, quick as a flash. Then he walked composedly away with his pupil, leaving the laugh on the joker.

"Fall in line, men!" commanded the officer in charge of the bricklaying class, after the squad had separated itself from the lines and entered the big brick structure, devoted to the use of the bricklaying, stone-cutting, stone-mason, and plastering classes. These classes, are located in different portions of a long room on the ground floor, and are taught by the instructor in bricklaying who is master also of the other trades enumerated.

"Attention to roll call!" continued the officer. He proceeded to check the names of the pupils present, in his book, making a side note of all absentees.

"12,345—Luckey—12.346—Settel! Hang up your coats and hats with the rest, over yonder, and then report here at the office," he concluded, after he had finished his checking and consulted a slip of paper just handed him by a messenger.

Peter and Nicholas presently found themselves confronting Mr. Keuwler, who, it appeared, was the instructor in bricklaying.

"I can tell you right here, Mr. Man," he grumbled to the officer having supervision of the class; "I've found out just what I'm goin' to do about that house, there;" pointing to a small brick cottage, about twelve feet high, in process of erection in one corner of the large room. "Now then, just the minute I put one of my good boys on that scaffold to work on that house, Skeels'll be in here and get his eye on that boy workin' up there and he'll say to himself, 'There's just the man I want for the new trades school buildin'!' Then he'll ask him his name and number and the first thing I know I haint got no man workin' up there. Now, then, what I'm goin' to do is to

put all my greenies and good for nuthin's on that scaffold and let Skeels have 'em! See if I don't."

"Bub," he continued, turning sharply on Peter; "See that I don't put you up there! Come—Don't be standin' 'round—you and the other feller get hold of those two trowels, and get over there by that barrel with the mortar board and the green mortar on it. I'll soon have you throwin' mortar for three brick. Lively now—lively!"

"Here, give me that trowel!" he went on; after the two boys had taken their places by the barrel and were standing, uncertain what to do next. "Now then, my boys, take a little bit of the mortar—so! Shape it into a nice little pile—this way—then pick it up on your trowel—so! and lay it—just like this! Then take and draw the point of your trowel along the middle of the streak and there you are with a nice bed to lay your three brick in. That's what we call 'throwin' for three brick.' It's as easy as eatin'! Now let's see *you* do it."

By this time, the class scattered about the room, singly, or in groups of two or three, were busily engaged, each at his outline or piece of work upon which he was to be examined by the instructor at the expiration of a stated number of hours of labor. The laying of straight wall, building of chimneys, forming of pilasters, "turning" of corners, erection of semi-circular, segmental, dovetail, and Gothic arches—in fact all the work incident to the bricklaying trade appeared to be busily going forward.

Over beyond the bricklayers, could be seen massive sections of foundation wall upon which the stone masons were working. To the right of these, the pupils of the stone cutting class were shaping and finishing the rough blocks of granite and sandstone into the various forms and scrolls prescribed in their trade outlines. Against the opposite wall of the room, a row of small lathed booths, roofed and inclosed upon three sides, were occupied by plasterers who were thus afforded practical experience at their trade.

Some of the bricklayers were at work upon the ornate little cottage, before mentioned. A glance through its open door, revealed a handsome colonial fireplace and mantel, the work of some advanced pupil. An iron crane, audirons, and tongs, a hundred years old, the property of Instructor Keowler, found space within the arch. Upon the shelves appeared artistic specimens of the stone-cutters' skill.

A miniature lighthouse, complete, from base to lantern, and about twenty feet in height, could be seen, standing near the instructor's office.

"Now, then, boys," continued the instructor, after watching Peter and Nicholas valiantly strive several times to make the coveted "three brick throw." "keep right at that till you can do it. You'll have the class work of three days, or about eight hours, in all, to get so that you can do it. Then I'll come over and examine your work and if you can do it well enough you'll pass, and if you can't, you won't. Now keep to work; you'll have all you want to do; I can tell you that."

"I knew a man in Oswego," continued the instructor, turning to the officer in charge, whom he favored with a slight quiver of an eyelash—"I knew a man in Oswego that many and many a day laid his seven thousand brick. I knew him well. He worked for me three years and four months. It took five men to 'tend him. He could make a seven brick throw, easy—easy, sir!"

"Say boss, how's dis?" asked a youth at work nearby, on a small brick pier.

"How's that? Why it's all wrong; that's how it is! Look at it! Can't you see?"

"It's straight, boss; I put the rule on it."

"Well, what if it is straight—it aint plumb—there's a difference between 'straight' and 'plumb!' Don't you know that? Why don't you put your plumb rule down properly—get your line over your mark—there—now you see how plumb it is! You wouldn't have room enough on a farm to build a barn in, that way."

"Now then, you've thrown mortar all over that bran-new spirit level I just borrowed of the

carpenter shop, you scamp, you!" he chided at Nicholas, who had just made a poor throw with his trowel. "Well, never mind—that'll make it mine. Every thing that's got mortar on it belongs to this class—that's been fought to the bitter end long ago. Now, hold your hand lower—so—now turn your trowel just a leetle—now draw it quickly over the board—that's better—that's better!"

Bricklaying was numbered among the most practical and useful of the trades taught at the reformatory. While the average pupil would earn his parole before remaining in the class a sufficient period of time to graduate therefrom, he would still have made sufficient progress to enable him to earn fair wages as an apprentice, after his release. In addition to the class work there was abundant opportunity for intelligent pupils to obtain practical experience at their trade by assignment to the regular construction work almost constantly in progress about the institution.

Ten minutes previous to the expiration of the class period which lasted from 12:30 until 2:30 P. M.,

the usual signal to stop work (clapping the hands) was given by the officer in charge. To the two boys it was a very welcome sound for their arms ached from their labors with the trowel.

Tools were quickly gathered by the inmate instructors, who, after checking their receipt in a book kept for the purpose, locked them in a store room near the instructor's office. The prisoners then gathered at a long sink, supplied with water by individual jets which, continuously flowing, enabled each man to perform his ablutions from running water.

The men were then directed to "pair off;" (one couple preceding another) and the two lines thus formed were carefully counted and compared with the class roll call to make sure that no prisoner had secreted himself in the classroom or elsewhere with the intention of ultimately trying to escape from the reformatory, or, in institutional parlance, attempting to "hide-out."

By the time these preparations were completed, the roll of a snare drum signalled for the march to





*"Well, what if it is straight,—it ain't plumb!—"—Page 97.*

(Masonry Class)



the school rooms, which occupied the entire second and third floors of a large building, located for convenience, adjacent to, and accessible from the northern range of cell blocks.

A wide corridor extended the length of the building, on either floor, from which doors communicated with the numerous class rooms. The partitions separating these rooms from the corridor were largely of glass, rendered partially opaque for a sufficient height to effectually screen the pupils from observation from the corridors. The school rooms also received light from the outside windows of the building, on either side.

Blackboards occupied space upon one wall of each room, from which the floor was terraced, supporting wooden chairs, provided with widened arms, for convenience in writing. A higher chair for the use of the supervising officer was placed in a corner, facing the others. A small table, for the accommodation of the inmate instructor, stood in front of the blackboard. In the windows were boxes of flowering and foliage plants.

In due time the lines entered the school building and, traversing the lower corridor, ascended the stairs at the further end and moved along the upper hall; the pupils leaving the ranks upon arriving at their proper class rooms, which were easily identified by the numbers over the doors.

It was quite an animated scene—messengers hurrying to and fro; prisoner pupils locating and entering the school rooms to which they had been assigned; inmate instructors receiving from the school director the roll call books for the different classes, then ranging themselves in line in the corridor to wait for the signal to enter upon their duties as teachers. Stationed along the corridors were citizen supervising officers. Others, assigned to duty in the class rooms, were already in their chairs; one or two late comers were just arriving.

Luckey and Settel, entering with the rest of the prisoners, and not knowing exactly where to go, very naturally became stranded, in company with a half-dozen of the other new men, at the further end of the upper corridor. Standing

near them was the officer with the red mustache who had conducted the party to the photograph gallery.

"I see yer leave de squad, dis mornin' wid de messenger guy. Where'd he take yer?" asked Peter of Nicholas as the two stood together by the window.

"My eye!—but dat was a close one!" remarked the latter. "De guy in de office wanted to know where I got a little bit o' 'baccy dey found in de cubberd. I says to 'em, I says: 'A feller trun it in de do' when he wus goin' by,' I says. Oh, dat's straight goods—dat's wot he dun. Den de guy he says:

'You're one of the new men, I see by your number,' he says; and I says 'Yes'; and den he looks at me hard and he says: 'Of course you didn't take a chew of dis?' an' he hel' up de plug wid de marks on it of bein' half bit off.

'I didn't take a single chew off it!' I says lookin' him straight in de eye.

'How about half-a-dozen?' he says, wid a wink.

'I dunno as I'm exactly prepared to say as to dat.' I says: Hully gee, Cully, but I'd soit'nly filled me face wid dat 'baccy 'bout 'leven or twenty times, all rite, all rite—Hully gee, but it tasted good! Don't yer—

"Now, look here, you, Settel! This is the second time I've caught you chinning with him. Here's where you both get a yellow out of it—what's your number?"

"Oh, say boss, I wuz—

"*What's your number!* Don't give me any game of talk—I know what you did—talking calls for a second class report and you'll get it—what's your number?"

"Now, you fellows, pair off and stand at attention—I've heard enough of you!" concluded the officer, as he recorded in his book, the respective names and consecutive numbers of Nicholas Settel and Peter Luckey, tremblingly given by these unfortunate individuals.

A few minutes later, the boys saw the school director approaching.

"All right, captain, I'll take these men now;" he remarked to the officer. "Come, boys, and I'll show you where you are to go to school."

Proceeding along the upper corridor, followed by the group of newcomers, the school director conducted them all to school room number twenty-three.

"Here are six men for you, Lane;" he said to the inmate instructor who was engaged in placing some written work upon the black board, preparatory to beginning work with his class. "You can talk to them a little before roll call, can't you?"

"New men?" Certainly, Mr. Upton; I've got my work all in shape now. Say, Mr. Upton, I haven't got my late light permit yet. I've been in the normal class two weeks now. I wish I had it. I don't have half enough time to prepare my work. Will you see about that, Mr. Upton?"

"All right, Lane; I'll take that up with the guard room office. You don't look overworked though. You're sure you don't want that late light to read your library book by, are you? Yes?

All right, I'll see about it. Get after these men now." The school director went out.

The instructor, a bright appearing youth, about nineteen years of age, greeted the new arrivals pleasantly and gave them seats in the front row of chairs. After asking them some questions about their previous school advantages, he said:

"To-day being Thursday, we study language—the classes in language occur on Thursdays and Fridays, and arithmetic, on Mondays and Tuesdays. This afternoon we are going to have some reading and also some spelling—writing words on your pads. If you attend closely to what is going on you will soon be able to work with the class. You will be given something to take to your rooms and prepare for the next class recitation. If you study in your rooms you will get along a good deal better in your classes. Our work here is not so very hard but you will have to do some thinking, which won't hurt any of you. Once a month you will be examined, to see what you have learned during the month. You must pass these examinations or it

will cost you money—I suppose you know that? Anything under seventy-five per cent. and over fifty will cost you a dollar; under fifty and over twenty-five, two dollars; anything under twenty-five per cent. will cost you three dollars. I suppose that you know that you are working for the State, here, for about fifteen cents a day and your board, don't you, and that if you get in debt by failing in your examinations, it will hinder your getting out of here just so much—there's a point there, you see, all right? So it is up to you fellows to 'saw wood,' or get left."

"Say, boss, I don't git dat troo me nut—de guy in de mil't'ry said sumthin' but I didn't ketch on none. I don't wanta stay here longer'n I hav' ter." said Peter Luckey, with decision.

"Ner me!" briefly added Nicholas Settel.

"You've a rule book, haven't you? Why don't you read it?" asked the instructor.

"I hain't had no—Oh, gee—dat's so; a guy in de office giv us all a little book when we went out; after de high guy—

"Say 'superintendent'—that's his name—the 'general superintendent'. You're liable to get yourself disliked if you call the officials here, 'guys'; I don't mind telling you that."

"I didn't meen nuthin,' sir." said Peter.

"All right. Now if you have received a rule book, I give you a straight tip that you had better study it through in your room to-night. You'll find it'll be good for what ails you. Now, sit up and take notice, boys, and do as you're told." concluded the instructor, as he arose and took his position in front of the class.

"Last week," he said, I gave each of you five slips of paper cut in the form of an envelope, and asked that you write a different address upon each one, in the proper form. Three of these were to contain titles, and all, the abbreviation for the name of a State. How many have done this?"

All raised their hands, with the exception of the new pupils.

"You were also given a printed outline, containing eight incomplete sentences, the information

for the filling of the spaces, to be supplied in writing, by yourselves. Has this been done? Yes? All right; Moriarty, please collect the slips and place them on the table here."

The instructor glanced casually at several of the slips as they were handed in. Then he smiled.

"One of these sentences you have all seemed to end the same way. Are you sure you haven't communicated? This sentence: 'On next Fourth of July I should like to visit'—and then you've all written, 'New York!' I wonder how that happened!"

The instructor then proceeded to distribute certain printed slips containing the description of the building of the canoe, from Longfellow's beautiful poem, "Hiawatha." Sentence by sentence, this was read by the class. Some little time had, no doubt, been devoted to the study of this selection as, upon request, several pupils repeated portions of it by heart, with good expression. When a bright young fellow, the star of the class, repeated the last few lines, beginning:

"Thus the birch canoe was builded  
In the valley, by the river,  
In the bosom of the forest."....

our friend Peter was mightily impressed and fervently wished he could do as well.

After the reading of the poem, the instructor indicated with his pointer, a list of words, selected from the piece just read, which he had previously written upon the board. These words he now gave out to different members of the class with the request that each make a sentence which should include the word given.

Peter Luckey was among the pupils thus honored, and instantly realized that he was, to use his own expression, "up agin it." His word was "water" and to save his life he could think of nothing to say about it; especially after listening to the flowery sentences in due time given forth by more practiced, or perchance more gifted scholars. Particularly did he feel overshadowed by the genius of the bright youth who had last recited "Hiawatha," and who had received the

apparently unpromising word "resin" and had almost immediately sprang to his feet and recited: "The resin on the bow makes the violin string sing." However, after waiting until the last minute, Peter had an inspiration and won the deserved applause of teacher and pupils by enunciating the sterling epigram, "Water is better than whiskey!"

## VI

Peter Luckey languished in the guard house. Melancholy was written large all over him. For the space of two days he had done little but restlessly pace the narrow cell. Two nights "devoid of ease" had he slept upon a mattress, placed upon the chilly, unsympathetic stone floor—no bedstead, no pillow, no chair nor table. His own room appeared by comparison, luxurious to a degree.

The story of Peter's transgression is not so very long in the telling—a single blow; "only that and nothing more"—and here he was, in disgrace

—and discomfort! Ten months had now elapsed since his reception at the reformatory; ten months in which he had run well. Quite a bit of patient study of his rule book, nights, eked out with bits of information gleaned here and there, and close observation of the ways of the other prisoners, sufficed to soon render him tolerably familiar with the institutional routine. He had had good sense enough to see where the "shoe pinched," and resolved to make an effort to earn his release by parole. This, he found would take about thirteen months, provided he did not make any slips. His "chinning" with Nicholas, in the corridor of the school rooms, for which misdemeanor, Captain Reeves had given each of the boys a "yellow," or second class report, meant a fine of twenty-five cents—not a large amount, but still sufficient to indicate in which direction the wind set, and to serve as a warning against future and possibly more serious infractions of the reformatory discipline.

His tasks in the school of letters, though



requiring considerable class and evening study, he had managed to get through with, in a fairly satisfactory manner thus far. Although suffering several failures in examination, no one of these had merited more than a dollar fine. His spelling was one of his weak points, but this had greatly improved, of late.

In his trade, bricklaying, he took great interest, and learned rapidly. In this work he was examined at the expiration of an allotted number of hours of practice, and as yet he had not failed in a single outline.

He had experienced a hard siege with Sergeant Reilly and the awkward squad, but finally graduated, in seven weeks, and now proudly appeared with the regiment, at dress parade, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Peter was a very good natured boy and had become quite a favorite among the prisoners with whom the nature of the routine necessitated his coming in contact. Two or three months previous, he had gained promotion to the first, or highest institutional grade and had begun

to anticipate the day when he should be summoned to appear before that august body, the board of managers, and be authorized for parole!

And now, as stated above, Peter languished in the guard house. To particularize: Peter had an enemy. The feud was ancient, of "east side" origin, in fact—something touching the insulted honor of "de gang," or perchance, "de odder bunch"—a vital point, without doubt. Peter's enemy's name was Dogan. He had a red head and a squint in his eye. Peter's hair was also red.

Dogan had long been absent from the twilight councils of his "gang" and it developed that he had been persuaded to pass the interim in the "College on the Hill," on account of a *penchant* for balcony pillars.

Peter recognized Dogan the second day after the former's assignment to the bricklaying class. Dogan favored Peter with a truculent smile. Time passed on. Peter for a time had not much trouble in avoiding his old time adversary, as Dogan had been a long time in the class and was quite a

bit in advance of Peter and consequently located in a different portion of the room. However, as before mentioned the latter soon became greatly interested in his trade and, passing every outline, in due time, overtook Dogan, who was a lazy, mischievous boy and had, in the course of his institutional career, passed two months in the "Wing" a place in the reformatory where they darned socks and mended clothes, in depressing silence, from morn till eve. Moreover, Dogan cared little, whether or not he passed his trade outlines, as he had fully determined to do his "bit" of two and one-half years; and he had hinted, so Peter heard, that he, Peter Luckey, should not miss a like experience if he, Dogan, could compass it.

So in due time, destiny and the trades school office decreed that Peter and Dogan should share the same mortar board, although engaged upon different work; Dogan being still one outline in advance.

One day officer Dale paused a moment in passing:

"Well, Luckey, come out of your trance and get in the game awhile! What's the matter? You look as if you'd seen a ghost!"

Peter started. He had been lost in contemplation of the particular spot where he had placed his trowel a moment before, in order to pile over some bricks, and had not noticed the approach of the officer.

"Boss, I can't find me—"

"Come, you fellows, stop your chewing the rag and get to work—you two in the corner, I mean! Cut that out!" sharply called Officer Dale, turning away for a moment to reprimand a couple of men at the further side of the room.

"Lost your what?—trowel? Why, man, look! It's right there behind you!"

"Boss, I looked dere jest a second ago—dat ain't where I laid it down, either."

"Oh, I guess it was; you were dreaming," said the officer. "Dogan," he continued, after a moment; "you're terribly industrious this afternoon—I hope it'll last!" and the officer passed on.

"T'other red-head hid yer trowel—I saw him put it back;" remarked a tall, lean youth to Peter, in a low tone, as the former trundled a wheelbarrow past, on his way to the mortar bed.

One fine afternoon, several days later, it transpired that Peter was on examination. His outline, the fourteenth, required the "building of a plain, 16-inch wall, at the rate of 200 bricks per hour." In order to finish his examination before the close of the class session, it was necessary that he should lose no time, and he busily worked away, laying bricks as fast as he could. Presently he turned to where he had placed several carefully selected bricks, having sharp corners and edges, and which he intended to use in forming his corners, but—his fine bricks were all missing! He glanced quickly across at Dogan. That virtuous individual appeared to be absorbed in the work of building "semi-circular arches" and was laboring diligently.

Peter remembered the incident of the trowel, and was very wroth. But he said nothing because

he wanted to finish his examination within the allotted time, and thought he could use some other material for his corners. As he turned again to his work, Dogan openly sneered. Peter observed; but still, with an effort, held his peace. In a few moments Peter turned to the mortar board. As he bent over the board, mixing his "throw," Dogan, after laying his own last three bricks, scraped the surplus mortar from his work, after the usual manner of bricklayers, and instead of tossing it back upon the board, dexterously flung it full in the face of the long suffering Peter!

Bang! Down clattered Peter's trowel. Biff! Peter's fist went against his enemy's nose. Thud! Down went Dogan, headlong across his semicircular arch. Peter Luckey, his red hair bristling with rage, sprang forward with the intent of committing further depredations upon the face of his foe, but Officer Dale was on the spot in a trice and seizing him by the collar, dragged him away.....

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"I can't see why, Luckey, you expect me to help you out with this fine, when you started the fight yourself, and nearly knocked the fellow's nose off—that wouldn't be right, would it?" asked the general superintendent to whom Peter had made urgent solicitation for an interview, which had been granted.

"He got wot wuz comin' to him, superintendent."

"Well, what if he did? Where would you be if you got all that was coming to you, Peter?"

"Superintendent, I hain't never got into trouble here before dat scrap, sir. If you'd help me wid dat 'chocolate' I'd have a chance for de next boid, sir."

"The next board! What in the world do you want the next board for? As like as not you'd be fighting again in a week and get into trouble and I'd have to bring you back, you scallawag, you! Isn't that so?"

"No, sir, I don't tink so. I'd cut dat out. I

wouldn't a'hit him if he'd let me be, sir."

"The Major appears to think there are extenuating circumstances, Peter."

"Sir?"

"He says, from what he gathers, from Officer Dale and others, the fight was not all your fault. You must learn, though, not to let that red head of yours get the start of you and get you into trouble. Don't fight if you can possibly help it. I shouldn't wonder if I could help you about this, as it seems to be as you say, the first time you've got into any serious difficulty; and I've noticed you've been a pretty good boy since you came here. You can go now, Peter."

"Tank you, sir," said Peter Luckey.

On January, the fifteenth, nineteen hundred—the Honorable Board of Managers of the New York State Reformatory at Elmira, convened as a quarterly parole court, at that institution. Before them appeared two hundred and twenty-eight young men with cheerful and



*"They passed the barred door,"—Page 109.*



animated countenances. Noticeable among them were Sergeants Peter Luckey and Nicholas Settel, good men and true; members of the N. Y. S. R. Regiment for the space of twelve months, and non-commissioned officers since October, preceding.

In the interim, Peter's "chocolate," (so named from the color of the paper used in the issuance of this class of fines) the general superintendent had cancelled. Dogan kept his distance. Peter's excellent record in demeanor, school and trade work had been continued, so that it became possible to reduce the five years of his maximum sentence, to fifteen months, a very creditable showing for a lad of his capabilities. He had received and answered three letters from his Aunt Kate, the last one stating that his uncle's employer, a contractor, had agreed, when Peter should be paroled, to give him work as a helper to the bricklayers who were putting up partitions in a newly completed building in Harlem.

As the time for the meeting of the parole court drew nigh, Peter lost appetite and grew pale.

Nicholas, who also had hopes of getting the board found opportunity to inform Peter, that he, Nicholas, was in the same sickly condition, and from what he could find out, this was the regular thing with men expecting parole.

Bright and early on the morning of February 14th, — St. Valentine's Day — Peter and Nicholas, neatly attired in spick and span new suits, stood together in the "cage" and experienced the intense pleasure of seeing "Daddy" Spencer, the veteran door keeper of the reformatory, throw wide for them the portal, through which, while passing along the corridor, they had so often enviously watched the egress of other paroled prisoners, "gone before."

They passed the barred door, bade "Daddy" goodbye and were conducted to the "front office," where each received his personal belongings, including a check for ten dollars, and his parole paper; the latter containing instructions for him to make at least six, monthly, written reports to the

general superintendent, after which, if the reports should prove satisfactory, the paroled would be entitled to consideration by the board of managers for absolute release from the reformatory.

Then, after each of the boys had received a pleasant word and a hearty hand-shake from the general superintendent, Peter Luckey and Nicholas Settlet jubilantly set forth to take the "9:35" for New York.

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———18th St., New York.  
March 14, 190—

Mr. Scott :

Dear Sir—

I make report to you sir. I am staying at my Aunt Kate's four weeks now. My boss says I take pains with my work. I worked at my trade all but three days. I got \$11.40 and I got new clothes and a watch and chain. I did not get into fites as I told you. Hoping you are well  
Mr. Scott,

Very truly yours,  
Peter Luckey





HAND BOOK  
*OF THE*  
NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY  
AT ELMIRA  
♦♦♦♦  
PART TWO

## EFFECT OF REFORMATORY TREATMENT ON CRIME

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

BY JOSEPH F. SCOTT

*General Superintendent*

The last century witnessed a wonderful development in the social life of the nation. The poor are now aided by governmental, individual and organized charity; so that the beggar is fast disappearing from our midst. Hospitals have been provided for the sick, and homes for the incurable, aged, and infirm. The hours of the workingman have been shortened, child labor curtailed, the condition of laboring women improved, together with more cleanly and sanitary conditions of living.

A Dorothy Dix showed the way, and the lunatic is now properly cared for; the epileptic and the feeble minded are also within the fold of our tenderest care. A Howe gave his life to the blind, and a Gallaudet to the deaf mute, making it possible for a Helen Keller to graduate from Radcliffe. All of

this manifests the marvellous advancement made in the last century, the great burden of which is cheerfully borne by a generous people in their prosperity. Even now the criminal, the most despised and longest neglected of all our unfortunate classes, is receiving an attention unthought of at the beginning of the century. Through all the past he has been the subject of retributive punishment alone; once a criminal, always an outcast; increasing steadily in numbers under repressive measures until he became a menace to civilization.

It is needless for me to picture to you the condition of our prisons and the treatment of criminals of a century ago. Nowhere has the advancement been made in dealing with these dangerous unfortunates, that has been made in



General Superintendent's Office  
(*Joseph F. Scott*)



this country. To be sure, Maconochie, rich in his experience at Norfolk Island, outlines to a committee of the British Parliament, measures and methods akin to those in vogue in our country to-day, and Sir Walter Crofton was successful in incorporating like methods in the prison system of Ireland; but the belief that many prisoners, under proper treatment may be reformed, has taken deeper root in the American mind than in any other part of the world; so that belief in the possibility of the reformation of the criminal may properly be called the American idea in penology.

This belief in the possibility of the reformation of the criminal gave the Auburn and Pennsylvania penitentiary systems to the world; but it was only a trifle over a quarter of a century ago, through the efforts of such men as Doctor Dwight, Doctor Wines, and Mr. Brockway, of New York, that the underlying principles of a strictly reformatory system, advocated by Maconochie, and vitalized by the then new indeterminate sentence, were incorporated in the statutes establishing the New York

State Reformatory at Elmira; giving a new trend to the whole penological system of the country and resulting in the adoption of this system by twelve different states of the Union.

The advocates of the reformatory system maintain that society has the right to incarcerate criminals for its own protection, and not for their punishment; that under the indefinite sentence, the criminal should be restored to society when he has demonstrated his fitness to again live in society without being a menace to it, and no sooner; in distinction from the old method that after a period of confinement for punishment he should be released to again prey upon society, whether he be reformed or not. The advocates of the reformatory system do not believe that all prisoners are susceptible to reformation. They do not believe that crime is a disease; but, as a physician, in the treatment of his diseased patient, recognizes that there is in some, congenital disease which, though he may not cure, he can in a degree alleviate; he also knows that there are others, forming the bulk

of those coming under his observation, who are afflicted with acute disease which, in skilful hands, may be eradicated; and that there are still others who, through neglect, have fastened upon them, disease in its chronic form.

In like manner we believe that there may be congenital criminals, who continue through life as such. In these the manifestations of criminality develop early, and they may be found at a tender age, in the reform schools; afterwards in the reformatories for adults; passing on, and ending their existence in the state prisons. And there are others who, by neglect, or improper treatment, pass on into the realm of the habitual criminal. The great bulk of criminals, however, who may be classed as criminals of environment, are susceptible, under proper treatment and training, to reformation. If reformatories founded upon these principles, have not accomplished the work expected of them, it is due rather to the unthoroughness in the administration of methods, and the inability to place the proper laws upon our statute books

for the execution of those methods, than to any defect in the principles themselves.

The indeterminate sentence, to achieve its full effectiveness, should be relieved of its maximum limit which, in many cases, is now altogether too short to carry with it much reformatory influence. It has been my observation that the higher the maximum limit in any particular case, the greater has been the incentive and effort on the part of the prisoner toward reformation.

Under the present penal code of this state it is possible, and largely a practice in many of our courts, for criminals, guilty of serious crime, to be allowed to make a plea to an *attempt* to commit crime, and receive sentence therefor. Out of the 1,059 inmates sentenced to the New York state reformatory, last year, 361 were sentenced for an attempt to commit the crime with which they were charged.

The greater number of these were for attempts to commit burglary and grand larceny in the degree carrying a maximum of two and one-half

years, which is altogether too short a maximum to have much reformatory influence.

The advocates of the indeterminate sentence, accepted the present limitation as a compromise; they have demonstrated what they can achieve, hedged about by these limitations. The community ought now to insist upon, and the legislature ought now to allow the indefinite sentence in its entirety. If the contention of those believing in the reformatory system, is right, and the theory of the indeterminate sentence is correct, a person arrested and brought before a magistrate, for crime, should not receive a sentence as punishment for that crime; but the evidence of his having committed crime should be taken as a symptom of the person's criminality, and the magistrate, by such evidence of his having committed crime, should adjudge him a criminal and commit him to prison in precisely the same way as he adjudges a person to be insane and commits him to a lunatic hospital. There the criminal should remain, like the lunatic, for life if need be, unless his sooner release would be safe to society.

It has been contended by many that the indefinite sentence allows the release of criminals too soon, but it is a fact, that in every state where the indeterminate sentence has been given trial, the average term of imprisonment has increased instead of diminished. It is also contended that the power of the release of prisoners should not be left to the prison authorities, they being a part of the executive branch of the government.

We reply that the authorities having the oversight of a criminal during a long period, are better qualified to judge of the time of his release, than the committing magistrate, who, at the best, observes him for a period of only a few hours. We believe that the people have no more to fear from the unwise discharge of prisoners by the executive officers trained in this line of work, than they have from their judicial officers.

The reformatory methods have now been on trial long enough to invite consideration of their results. If they have attained what could be reasonably expected under the imperfect conditions imposed

upon them, may we not plead for further progress in this direction?

The establishment of reformatory prisons in the different states, has influenced the whole prison system, and, from the successful results accomplished in paroling prisoners from reformatory institutions, has grown the probation system, adopted in a few of the states.

This system has demonstrated that large numbers of prisoners convicted of crime may be dealt with successfully and their reformation accomplished without committing them to prison. Perhaps in no state has the probation system been given so thorough a trial as in the state of Massachusetts where nearly every court has one or more probation officers, and where 8,790 cases were taken on probation for the year, ending September 30, 1904; of this number 734 were surrendered to the court for violation of the terms of probation; 604 disappeared and defaulted, 177 were arrested for new offenses during probation; 896 had their probation extended and 5,732 were on file or discharged at the expiration of probation.

In the city of Brooklyn, Mr. Backus, the probation officer, informs me that last year, over 1,200 cases were taken by him, on probation, of which 207 were surrendered for sentence.

Forty per cent. of all the prisoners committed to the state prisons and reformatories of this state, are committed to the New York State Reformatory at Elmira. For the year from January 1, 1904 to January 1, 1905, there were paroled from that institution, 695 prisoners. Of this number, 533 or 76.8 per cent. have been absolutely released; 65, or 9 per cent. have violated their paroles and have not yet been apprehended; 52, or 7.5 per cent. were returned for violation of parole; 24, or 3.4 per cent. are serving terms in other prisons; 8, or 1.2 per cent. are still reporting; 6, or .9 per cent. have their accounts closed on account of sentences expiring while on parole; 5, or .7 per cent. have been returned to the reformatory on new charges; and 2, or .3 per cent. were allowed to go to foreign countries.

Statistics of crime in the United States, cover-



ing any extended period, are so incomplete that any comparisons are almost valueless; but in those states in which reformatory methods have been introduced and where statistics have been carefully compiled, it is interesting to note the relative increase of crime to population. In Massachusetts for instance, where carefully prepared statistics of crime have been kept for a considerable period, we find that serious crime does not increase in proportion to the increase of population. In 1880 there were committed to prison in that state, for offenses against the person, 1,674; in 1904, for the same offenses, 1,415. For offenses against property in 1880, there were committed to prison, 2,105; and in 1904, for the same offenses, 2,943; an increase, in a period of 24 years, of 15.3 per cent. The population of Massachusetts in 1880, was 1,783,085 and in 1904, approximately 3,000,000, an increase of 68.2 per. cent. It is evident that felonies in that state, show a relative decrease.

In the state of New York, complete statistics of crime have been tabulated since the creation of

the present state commission of prisons. From the reports of this commission it appears that in 1896, when the first correct statistics were prepared there were committed to the state prisons, 986; to the New York state reformatory, 580; to the penitentiaries, 19,045; to the house of refuge for women, 124; to the county jails, the New York city prisons and the New York county workhouse, 109,516; making a total of 130,245; for all offenses. In 1904, there were committed to the state prisons, 1,124; to the New York state reformatory at Elmira, 875; to the penitentiaries, 12,713; to the house of refuge for women, 226; to the county jails, the New York city prisons, and the New York county workhouse, 86,616; making a total of 101,554; and showing a decrease of 22 per cent. while the population for the period increased approximately, 21 per cent.

It is clearly evident, from a thorough study of the criminal statistics of states where the reformatory methods have been adopted, that the average length of sentences has increased and not di-

minated, and that crime has not increased, in a ratio to the population.

The reformatory system appeals to its advocates as being a reasonable, scientific, practical, and Christian way of dealing with criminals. Its methods should be extended and their application made general. No longer should justice be repre-

sented by the figure of a woman with bandaged eyes, holding in her hands scales weighing out justice and punishing the guilty; but the figure should represent universal motherhood, with eyes wide open to the possibilities of humanity and a heart throbbing with compassion and mercy toward her unfortunate children.





Institutional Farm--The Herd, Grazing



## EXTRACT FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF 1900

**BY Z. R. BROCKWAY***General Superintendent.*

The total of benefits desirable and possible by punishing or imprisoning offenders is included in the purpose of the public protection.

Of convicted culprits, the only complete protection is their reformation. To perpetually imprison them or destroy them is either costly or demoralizing to the community.

Reformations serviceable to the state are of habitudes, tastes and capabilities from the anti-social predatory to orderly, legitimately productive inhabitants.

The vital principle of such reformations is training by doing.

The essential characteristic attainments are self-regulating power, true perceiving with wise

choosing for personal welfare, and good skill and ability to earn.

The field of reformation with each prisoner is, subjectively, the human organism, the mind and the feelings, or moral impulse; objectively considered, it is his economic relations, his personal habits and associations, and his worth to any community.

The truest test and evidence of reformation is had in actual performance observed and recorded while under training in seclusion, and again when released conditionally, but living at large.

The prerequisites and facilities for such reformations are:

(a) Indeterminate sentence committal of

prisoners, with its conditional release clause, substantially as at Elmira, but without the maximum limitation feature of the reformatory law.

(b) A marking system and accounting with each prisoner, which should include wage-earning necessity, with safe and other expenditure opportunity.

(c) Trades school so comprehensive and complete that each prisoner pupil shall learn and practise the occupation best for him to follow on his release.

(d) School of letters, covering instruction from the kindergarten grade to and including the academic, together with a supplemental lecture course.

(e) Military organization, training and drill, embracing every inmate not disqualified.

(f) Physical culture and well appointed gymnasium with bath and massage appliances for scientific use to renovate the physical man, compensate asymmetries and augment vital energies.

(g) Manual training proper, with tool work,

etc., for use to aid recovery from discovered specific physical defects.

(h) For more direct appeal to the moral and spiritual consciousness, there should be provided a library of carefully selected and wisely distributed books, with class study of literature and authors; art education by use of the stereopticon, with lectures, and, when practicable, occasional art exhibitions carefully selected and explained; music, both vocal and instrumental, always high class, given and practiced to quicken sensibilities and for refinement; oratory directed to inspire heroism and patriotism; these together with religious services and ministrations.

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The principles of good reformatory administration should include:

(a) Custody so secure that prisoners do not occupy their minds with thoughts or plans for escape.

(b) Control and management (within the law)



**The General Superintendent Interviewing New Arrivals**  
*(Z. R. Brockway)*





by the constituted institutional authority, without interference or "influence" of outside persons. When the state undertakes the reclamation of criminals, benevolent societies and individuals rendering voluntary assistance, should serve under advice: the state is competent and responsible.

(c) There must be a resident executive officer in full command, vested with good authority and wide discretionary power.

(d) Subordinate officers and employees should be appointed and dismissed by such executive at his pleasure. They should be completely and exclusively under his control, and their functions should be limited to his direction.

(e) The entire life of the prisoner should be directed, not left to the prisoner himself; all his waking hours and activities, bodily and mental habits, also, to the utmost possible extent, his emotional exercises. So thorough and rigorous should this be that unconscious cerebration, waking or sleeping, will go on under momentum of mental habits. There should be no time nor

opportunity for the prisoner to revert to vicious characteristics.

To such reformatory training the reasonable cooperation of, say, eighty per cent. of the prisoners can be secured by moral means alone; but for the remainder something more is required, and it is most important that the intractable remainder be recovered. They constitute the dangerous twentieth of the prison population, whose release unreformed is of itself wrong, indeed a crime. Moreover, these intractable prisoners do, by their misconduct and their opposition or indifference to the means provided for their reformation, hurt others and hinder the usefulness to the state of the reformatory itself. For this comparatively small contingent, of a prison population, when moral considerations fail to influence them, another appeal must be made through some form of coercive discipline. Deprivations and indulgence of common physical comforts of living will assist to resolve some; others will respond to short periods of seclusion, with or without extreme deprivations

and restricted diet the while; yet others, always some, cannot adjust their conduct without severe and sharp treatment; but the total of very refractory prisoners in a reformatory depends much upon the kind of use made of moral means and mild coercives.

The most intractable of them may be treated in any one of three ways: They may be removed to another prison; they may be secluded and abandoned to themselves within the prison where they are confined; or physical treatment may be used to recover them. There is no fourth alternative, for to lower the standard of performance for all to the level of the worst of the prisoners, but turns a reformatory into a common jail prison.

Removal of troublesome prisoners to another prison is not only no remedy, but an evil. Their apparent triumph confirms them in misconduct and incites others remaining to similar misbehavior. This plan might be more satisfactory if all the prisons were under centralized control; each, one of a graduated series of prisons, and if the full

indeterminate sentence, in place of the present half-way measure, could be the uniform condition of imprisonment.

Equally unsatisfactory is the second plan named and for quite the same considerations, together with the additional very serious difficulty of the disturbance and evil influence of their disorderly behavior, and the injury to health of body and mind sure to result from continued cellular confinement under the most favorable conditions consonant with any tolerable state of affairs throughout the prison establishment.

Physical disciplinary treatment of really recalcitrant prisoners in a reformatory prison for male adult felons is either repressive, or tonical, or both. Repressive measures only, must be long continued with the class we are considering. Such measures are, all of them, always objectionably depressing of vitality; they deteriorate mind and morals, degenerate the man and operate to deprave instead of reform him.

The necessary repression in treatment is had

without injury only when it is derived from invigorating measures. To proceed to repress the evil alone, without supplying at the same time a tonic for good, is destructive. The bracing disciplinary measures supply both; repression being incidental, stimulation the main reliance for recovery. Physical treatment for correction by invigoration finds its last resort in the shock of some brief physical pain. The ingenuity of man devising so-called punishments for recalcitrants everywhere has apparently been expended mainly for repressive pains rather than those that stimulate and strengthen. Of the latter, there are three common forms, namely; shock by douche, by electricity, and by spanking. The douche is difficult to regulate. Electricity is dangerous. The only harmless, stimulating physical treatment is, for such as must suffer it, the safest and surest, that which has always been used, rarely abused,

the too much contemned measure, spanking. Conferred authority to use this means, shown by occasional applications of it, greatly reduces the number of occasions when the physical treatment is needed.

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The actual usefulness to the state, of a reformatory, greatly depends, always, on the man who is the executive head, on his appreciation and devotion, his ability and tact, together with the exclusiveness of industry with which he applies himself to administrative duties. To hamper and belittle his position is unwise.

Administrative details cannot be well conducted by any remote non-resident authority or agency, and it is impossible to maintain with efficiency the numerous departments and the delicate adjustment of them in a well organized reformatory if there is divided executive control.

## EXTRACT FROM BOARD OF MANAGERS' REPORT FOR 1904.

**Discipline**

Many people when they speak of the "discipline" of an institution mean nothing more than the preservation of order and decorum. A certain type of old fashioned prison where the inmates were marched from place to place with the lock step and not allowed to speak to each other or to raise their eyes above the ground when not at work would, to them, afford an example of discipline at its perfection.

We mean something more. To us, discipline is a system of imparting knowledge and regulating practice for the purpose of making honest men out of criminals, and whether its standard is high or low must be measured by its effect on character.

One prisoner may walk a straight line in the prison yard and maintain silence for an indefinite period without becoming a better man, and, *vice*

*versa*, another may be very troublesome from an institutional standpoint and meanwhile be developing into a useful citizen.

A certain degree of order and decorum, however, is essential to the working of any system and the method of obtaining it in the reformatory has been a matter of evolution.

We have about 1,400 young men, each of whom has been convicted of a felony. Before coming here most of them had never been conspicuously quiet and well behaved; quite the contrary. They have been sifted out by the courts from the general community and sent to us because they were deemed so lawless, unruly and dangerous to society that they could not safely be left at large.

They differ in degree, but, obviously, if we sift out from the 1,400 bad ones, the forty worst

ones, we have in the latter a crowd, depraved and turbulent, vicious and rebellious with little or no desire to be otherwise.

No system yet devised can reform or sensibly improve all. Last year we discharged 127 men simply because the law did not allow us to retain them any longer, having reason to believe that many of them would speedily return to crime.

The most difficult problem in reformatory management has always been to determine what to do with this latter class of men to prevent them from demoralizing the others, especially in an institution like this, where the proper carrying out of the system of training requires that the large population should be outside their cells all day with considerable freedom of movement and communication.

The most kind hearted and philanthropic of citizens, if brought into close personal relations with a young man of this kind, would be very apt to say: "What that boy needs is a good licking!"

At first thought, nothing short of that seems at all adequate.

Formerly in this institution there was corporal punishment. It is a mistake to suppose that it was of general application. It was confined probably to less than 10 per cent. of the population and if it was to exist at all, few with knowledge of the facts would disapprove of the specific instances.

The objection to it was not so much that harm was done to the individual who suffered it but that the rest of the population, never in a state of very stable mental equilibrium, were stirred up by it and kept in a state of unrest rendering the development of relations of confidence and regard between them and the officers of the institution, difficult or impossible.

Five years ago it was entirely abolished. The class of men, however, for whom it was designed still remained. Some substitute had to be found.

Reduction in grade was impossible, for these men were already at the bottom.

A reduction of food allowance was tried.

The results were most unsatisfactory. The full ration is none too large for the preservation of health. It is an old saying that you can always reach a man through his stomach. A well fed, well nourished person must necessarily be in a more normal mental condition, and therefore more easily susceptible to moral treatment than one who is hungry. Conversely, it is natural for a man to behave worse in proportion as his brain cries out for the life giving elements which are absent from his blood through lack of nutrition.

Close confinement in individual cells partially remedied the evil by secluding the offenders from the rest of the population. That is to say it was of advantage to the others but oftener a disadvantage to the ones confined. Solitary confinement without employment, if long continued, breeds insanity.

The line of demarcation between insanity and viciousness is in any case a hard one to draw.

Men on their admission, and subsequently, are carefully examined and watched for symptoms of

insanity. When detected, a transfer is promptly made to the state hospital for the criminal insane at Dannemora. This in itself has an important influence in the preservation of good order.

The system at present prevailing for which the new superintendent is responsible is working much better than anything before attempted.

All inmates according to their character and attainments are divided into three grades. The lowest or third grade, the dregs of our population, seldom numbers more than fifty.

A wing, containing fifty-six large, airy, well lighted cells has been cut off from the rest of the institution. When a man drops to the third grade he immediately enters this wing and is never again heard of by the general population till he reforms sufficiently to be restored to the second grade, and visitors to the reformatory see no more the red suit men that heretofore have been so picturesque objects at the military exercises and other turnouts.

Their bad influence on the others is thus thoroughly eliminated.



Institutional—The Third Grade





This third grade wing is a reformatory within a reformatory, bearing about the same relation to the rest of the institution that the latter bears to free life. The food is the same as that outside and there are no special physical discomforts or restraints. *Work is provided* which a man may perform with the others in the broad corridors, if he is quiet, and must perform in his cell if he misbehaves. Officers, carefully selected for their dignity, firmness and patience are placed in charge.

Thirty days of perfect demeanor entitle a third grade man to promotion which means restoration to the general life and activity of the institution. Failing of this he remains secluded indefinitely from all except those of his own class. As a matter of fact few remain over a month, and none beyond two or three.

The psychology of it is not easy to explain but, as a matter of fact even the most hardened and troublesome men soon become exceedingly anxious to get out of this comfortable but humdrum sort of a place and put forth efforts to that end as surprising

as they are pleasing.

Any day the edifying spectacle can be seen of men who heretofore prided themselves on their criminal records and general toughness and who would regard corporal punishment or physical restraint, like handcuffing, as a tribute to their greatness and who would seek conflict with authority as a means of becoming heroes in the eyes of milder men, of such hard citizens scrubbing the floor or darning socks all day and treading lightly and speaking softly in the hope thereby of getting a chance once more to enjoy life by taking part in the military and trades school work.

It shows how the appreciation of anything depends entirely on the point of view.

The general work of the institution is the same as for several years. The hospital, gymnasium, military organization, school of letters, and shops, where thirty-one trades are taught, so thoroughly described in former reports, have undergone no material change. Through these the ordinary inmate is given a healthy body and training of head and

hand. This does not necessarily "reform" him. They go for nothing unless through these and the personal influence of the officers of the institution, or in some other way, he comes to a proper understanding of himself and his relations to society and has a desire and strength for an honest life.

We think we note a decided improvement in the general mental attitude of the men. It shows in their faces and in the way they set about their work, and in the general quiet and good order. Never before were there so few reports for serious offenses in demeanor; never before were there so many earning their paroles or so many making

them in the minimum time, and conducting themselves properly when released on trial.

President Elliot of Harvard is reported to have recently said: "nobody knows how to teach morality effectually without religion. Exclude religion from education and you have no foundation upon which to build a moral character." We believe that this is true and that worthy of special mention in this connection is the good accomplished by the quiet, but faithful work done by the three clergymen regularly connected with the institution, Professor William H. Chapman, Reverend Father McCrone and Rabbi Jacob Marcus.



Institutional—Farm Buildings



**ABSTRACT OF LAWS RELATING TO THE NEW YORK  
STATE REFORMATORY AT ELMIRA, IN  
FORCE, OCTOBER, 1, 1906.**

**BY HENRY MELVILLE.**

1. STATE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF REFORMATORIES. There is a State Board of Managers of Reformatories, consisting of seven members appointed by the governor by and with the consent of the senate for the term of seven years, vested with the control and management of the New York State Reformatory at Elmira, and the Eastern New York Reformatory at Napanoch. Such managers receive no compensation for their services but are allowed their reasonable travelling and other official expenses. (*Chap. 684, Laws of 1906*)

2. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF MANAGERS. It is provided that such board shall:

(a) Have the general superintendence, management and control of such reformatories, of the grounds and buildings, officers and employes there-

of, of the prisoners therein, and of all matters relating to the government, discipline, contracts and fiscal concerns thereof;

(b) Make rules not inconsistent with law for the proper government of such reformatories and of the officers and employes thereof, and for the employment, discipline, education, transfer, parole and discharge of prisoners sentenced thereto;

(c) Investigate the affairs of such reformatories, inquire into any improper conduct alleged to have been committed by any officer or employe and require reports from the superintendent and other officers thereof in relation to discipline, labor and government of such reformatories, and have power to take proof under oath in any such investigation or inquiry;

(d) Meet monthly at one of the institutions

under its management, and at least monthly visit and inspect each institution, either by a majority of the board or a committee of its members, and make monthly, a written report to the governor, the state board of charities, and the fiscal supervisor.

(e) Examine monthly or quarterly, all the accounts, expenditures and vouchers relating to the business of such reformatories, and certify their approval or disapproval thereof to the comptroller.

(f) Report to the legislature, annually, on or before the tenth day of January, for the year ending with the last day of the next preceding September, the conditions of such reformatories, the amount of money received and expended by them during such year with a detailed statement thereof; their proceedings with regard to the prisoners therein, and such other matters as they may deem proper, or as the legislature may require.

(g) Make such other reports from time to time as the legislature may require.

(*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900; Chap. 684, Laws of 1906 § 3*)

### 3. APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

The board of managers appoints a superintendent of reformatories and may remove him for cause after an opportunity to be heard. Such superintendent, subject to the approval of the board of managers, appoints all other officers and employes of said institutions, all of whom may be removed by said board of managers and said superintendent.

The board of managers may transfer officers and employes from either of said institutions to the other for temporary or permanent service.

(*Chap. 193, Laws of 1901; Chap. 684, Laws of 1906*)

### 4. GENERAL DUTIES OF SUPERINTENDENT OF REFORMATORIES.

It is provided that the superintendent of such reformatories, subject to the direction and control of the board of managers, shall:

(a) Have the general supervision and control of such reformatories, of the grounds and buildings, subordinate officers and employes thereof, the

prisoners therein, and of all matters relating to the government and discipline thereof.

(b) Make such rules and orders, not inconsistent with law, or with the rules and directions of the board of managers, as he may deem proper or necessary for the government of such reformatories, and of the officers and employes thereof: and for the employment, discipline and education of the prisoners sentenced thereto.

(c) Annually report to the board of managers on or before the first day of October, all such matters as are required by the board of managers.

(d) Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as the board of managers may lawfully prescribe. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 7; Chap. 684, Laws of 1906, § 5*)

5. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS. There is an assistant superintendent for each of the said institutions who is authorized to exercise in the institution in which he may be appointed, the powers and duties of the superintendent in case of his absence or inability to perform such duties, and

to exercise such powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by said board of managers or by the superintendent of reformatories. (*Chap. 684, Laws of 1906, § 5*)

6. COMMITMENT TO THE REFORMATORIES. Prisoners are originally committed to the New York State Reformatory at Elmira under the following provision of the Penal Code:

"A male between the ages of sixteen and thirty, convicted of felony, who has not theretofore been convicted of a crime, punishable by imprisonment in a state prison, may, in the discretion of the trial court, be sentenced to imprisonment in the New York State Reformatory at Elmira, to be there confined under the provisions of law relating to that reformatory." (*Penal Code, § 700*).

7. INDETERMINATE SENTENCE. Any person who shall be convicted of an offense punishable by imprisonment in the New York State Reformatory at Elmira and who upon such conviction, shall be sentenced to imprisonment therein, shall be im-

prisoned according to this act and not otherwise, and the courts of this State imposing such sentence shall not fix or limit the duration thereof. The term of such imprisonment of any person so convicted and sentenced shall be terminated by the managers of the reformatory, as authorized by this act; but such imprisonment shall not exceed the maximum term provided by law for the crime for which the prisoner was convicted and sentenced. (*Chap. 711, Laws of 1887, § 9*)

8. TRANSFER OF PRISONERS. The board of managers may transfer prisoners committed to their custody from either one of said institutions to the other in their discretion and may provide rules and regulations governing such transfers.

If it appears to the board of managers that any prisoner

(a) Was at the time of his conviction more than thirty years of age; or

(b) Had been previously convicted of a felony; or

(c) While in the reformatory, is incorrigible

and his presence therein is seriously detrimental to the welfare of the institution; an application may be made to a justice of the supreme court of the judicial district in which such reformatory is located, for an order transferring such prisoner to a state prison. In case the order is made the superintendent of state prisons designates to which state prison said prisoner may be transferred. A prisoner so transferred is confined in such state prison as under an indeterminate sentence, commencing with his imprisonment in the reformatory with a minimum of one year, and a maximum fixed by law for the crime of which the prisoner was convicted and sentenced; and he may be released on parole or absolutely discharged as are other prisoners confined under an indeterminate sentence. Such prisoner may be returned at any time to the reformatory in the discretion of the superintendent of state prisons with the consent of the board of managers.

Whenever there is unoccupied room in the reformatories the board of managers may make a



requisition upon the superintendent of state prisons for a sufficient number of well behaved and promising convicts under thirty years of age and who are confined in a state prison because of a first offense and the superintendent of state prisons shall transfer such convicts to such reformatory for education and treatment under the rules thereof. The board of managers shall receive and detain the prisoners so transferred for the terms of their sentences, if such sentences are for fixed terms, less the commutation of imprisonment if earned, that would have been allowed to them for good conduct if they had completed their terms in the state prison from which they were transferred. If such prisoners are confined under an indeterminate sentence, they may be paroled and discharged as are prisoners confined in a state prison, except that the board of managers shall constitute a board of parole for the purpose of paroling and discharging such prisoners, and such board may make rules for such parole and discharge, not inconsistent with law and in conformity with

the rules made by the parole boards of the state prisons. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, §§ 16 & 17. Chap. 684, Laws of 1906, § 4.*)

Where the physician certifies to the superintendent that a prisoner is in his opinion insane the superintendent shall cause such prisoner to be transferred to the Dannemora hospital for insane convicts and delivered to the medical superintendent thereof. Such superintendent shall receive the prisoner into such hospital, and retain him there until legally discharged. The superintendent before transferring such insane prisoner, shall see that he is in a state of bodily cleanliness, and is provided with a new suit of clothing similar to that furnished to convicts on their discharge from prison. At the time of such transfer, there shall be transmitted to the medical superintendent of such hospital the original certificate of conviction and the certificate of insanity executed by the physician which shall be filed in the office of such medical superintendent.

Whenever any convict who shall have been

confined in such hospital as an insane person, shall have recovered before the expiration of his sentence and the medical superintendent thereof shall so certify in writing to the superintendent of the institution from which such convict was received, such convict shall forthwith be transferred to the institution from which he came, by the medical superintendent of the hospital, and the superintendent of such institution shall receive such convict into such institution and shall in all respects treat him as when originally sentenced to imprisonment. (*Chap. 520, Laws of 1899, §§ 9 & 12*).

**CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE OF PRISONERS.** The board of managers shall maintain such control over all prisoners committed to their custody as shall prevent them from committing crime, best secure their self-support and accomplish their reformation. The discipline to be observed therein shall be reformatory and the board of managers may use such means of reformation consistent with the security and improvement of the prisoners, as they may deem expedient. The prisoners may be

employed in agricultural or mechanical labor as a means of securing their support and reformation. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 18*).

The labor of prisoners of the first grade shall be directed with reference to fitting the prisoner to maintain himself by honest industry after his discharge from imprisonment, as the primary or sole object of such labor; and they may be employed for industrial training and instruction solely, even though no useful or salable products result from their labor, in case such industrial training or instruction can be more effectively given in such manner.

After the necessary labor for the manufacture of needed supplies for said institutions, the labor of prisoners shall be primarily devoted to the state, the public buildings and institutions thereof, and the manufacture of supplies for the state, and public institutions thereof, and secondly, to the political divisions of the state and public institutions thereof. (*Chap. 429, Laws of 1896*).

**10. REGISTER OF PRISONERS.** The board of



Trades School Products—Cabinet Work



managers shall cause to be entered in a register the date of the admission of each prisoner received therein, the name, age, nativity and nationality of such prisoner, and also such other ascertainable facts relating to parentage and early social influences as seem to indicate the constitutional and acquired defects and tendencies of the prisoner and based upon these an estimate of the then present condition of the prisoner and the best probable plan of treatment. There shall also be entered upon such register, quarterly or oftener, minutes of observed improvement or deterioration of character, notes as to methods of treatment employed, all orders or alterations affecting the standing or situation of such prisoner, the circumstances of his final release and any subsequent facts relating to his personal history which may be brought to their knowledge. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 19*).

11. MARKS FOR GOOD CONDUCT. The board of managers shall adopt a uniform system of marks by means of which shall be determined the number

of marks or credits to be earned by each prisoner sentenced to such reformatory, as the condition of increased privileges, or of the release from their control, which system shall be subject to revision from time to time. Each prisoner shall be credited for good personal demeanor, diligence in labor and study, and for results accomplished, and be charged for dereliction, negligence and offenses. Each prisoner's account of marks or credits shall be made known to him as often as once in each month. The board of managers shall make rules by which each prisoner shall be permitted to see and converse with some member of the board of managers at stated periods. An abstract of the record in the case of each prisoner confined in such reformatory shall be made semi-annually, showing the date of admission, the age, the crime, place of conviction, court or judge by whom sentenced, the situation at the time of making such abstract, whether in the reformatory, or state prison, the hospital for insane criminals or elsewhere, whether any and how much progress or improvement has

been made, and the reason for release or continued custody or transfer as the case may be, the names of those deceased during said period with cause of death. Such abstract shall be considered by the board of managers at a regular meeting and filed with the secretary of state. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 23*).

12. PAROLE OF PRISONERS. The board of managers may allow any prisoner confined therein to go upon parole outside of the reformatory buildings and enclosures, pursuant to the rules of the board of managers. A person so paroled shall remain in legal custody and under the control of the board, until his absolute discharge as provided by law. No personal appearances before the board shall be permitted in behalf of the parole or discharge of any prisoner. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 20*).

13. SUPERVISION OF PAROLED PRISONERS. The board of managers may appoint and at pleasure remove suitable persons in any part of the state, who shall supervise paroled prisoners and perform

such other lawful duties as may be required of them by such board. Such persons shall be subject to the direction of the board. They may be paid a reasonable compensation for their services, which will be a charge upon and paid from the funds of the reformatory. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 26*).

14. RETAKING OF PAROLED PRISONERS. If the board of managers has reasonable cause to believe that a paroled prisoner has violated the conditions of his parole, the board may issue its warrant certified by its secretary, for the retaking of such prisoner at any time prior to his absolute discharge. The time within which the prisoner must be retaken shall be specified in the warrant. Such warrant or warrants may be issued to an officer of the reformatory or to any peace officer of the state, who shall execute the same by taking such prisoner into custody within the time specified in the warrant. Thereupon such officer shall return such prisoner to the reformatory, where he may be retained the remainder of the maximum term provided by law. (*Chap. 378, Laws of 1900, § 21*)

15. ABSOLUTE RELEASE FROM IMPRISONMENT  
—DISCHARGE. Where it appears to the board of  
managers that there is strong or reasonable  
probability that any prisoner will remain at liberty

without violating the law, and that his release is  
not incompatible with the welfare of society, they  
shall issue to such prisoner an absolute release or  
discharge from imprisonment. (*Chap. 378, Laws of  
1900, § 24* )







## Dimensions and Areas of the Principal Reformatory Buildings and Enclosures

### General Measurements

Entire grounds, 300 acres; farm, 280 acres; main building and yard walls, 720x1,056; area, 17 acres; total area covered by main building, 112,000 sq. ft.; area 2½ acres.

### Dimensions of Main Building

Front portion, exclusive of extensions and wings, 54x608; north extension, 54x372; south extension 54x432; north wing, 54x164; central portion, main building, 54x78.

### Cell Blocks

North cell block, 21x135; four floors, 34 cells on a floor, total, 136 cells, each; 7x9x8.

South cell block, 21x135; four floors, 44 cells on a floor; total, 176 cells, 5x8.

North extension cell block, 21x388; four floors, 126 cells on a floor; total, 504 cells, 5x8.

South extension cell block, 21x234; four floors, 72 cells on a floor; total, 288 cells, 5x8.

North wing cell block, 21x77; four floors, 14 cells on a floor; total, 56 cells, 8x10.

South wing cell block, 21x234; four floors, 26 cells on a floor; total, 104 cells, 5x8.

### Central Portion of Main Building

Includes guard room, 54x78, 2nd floor; auditorium, 78x102; 3rd floor.

### Trades School Building

Trades school building, 60x254, 1st floor, machinist class room, 57x135; brass smith, 30x57, machine-wood-worker and cabinet maker, 57x81; 2nd floor, printer and book binder class room, 57x123; shoemaker, 57x61; telegraph, 21x43.

Trades school building, 76x254; one floor; brick-layer class room, 76x100; stone-cutter, 30x30; stone-mason, 30x50; plasterer, 76x100.

Trades school building, 100x100; one floor; iron and brass molder class room.

Trades school building, 61x254; 1st floor, carpenter class room 58x250; 2nd floor, house painter sign painter, decorator, 58x250.

Trades school building, 50x248; 1st floor, plumber class room, 47x59; steam fitter, 47x48;

tinsmith, 47x48. Fire engine room, 16x26; hose tower, 13x13x71; 2nd floor, drawing class room, 47x215; icehouse, 30x47x32; capacity, 1,200 tons

Trades school building, 50x114; 1st floor, stock rooms; 2nd floor, band hall, 48x80; hardwood finisher class room, 48x31.

School of letters class rooms; 26 school rooms, averaging in size from 23x27 to 40x40.

#### Miscellaneous

Domestic building, 65x245; basement under entire building, with 9 ft. ceiling; *first floor*, officers' kitchen, 25x63; 1st grade inmates' kitchen, 25x51; general inmates' kitchen, 51x74; bakery, including fuel room and bread room, 52x46; two store rooms, 38x63; refrigerator, 20x40; refrigerating machinery, 20x24. *Second floor*, general inmates, dining room; 63x192; credit dining room, 53x63. *Third floor*, Officers' dining room, including serving room, 42x63; eight offices averaging in size, 23x33; library 31x83. *Fourth floor*, officers' quarters, 23 rooms, averaging in size 12x14 to 17x20.

Gymnasium, 90x120; *1st floor*, main room, 83x84; open to roof; running track on gallery extending around sides of room, 4 ft. wide, 330 ft. long,

16 laps to the mile; dressing room, 16x21; steam room, 16x21; swimming tank room, 16x31; swimming tank, 8x27; *2nd floor*, drill room, 32x83.

Armory, 215x300.

Hospital; observation ward, 35x65; medical ward, 54x65; surgical ward, 27x44; consumptive ward, 54x64; dispensary, 9x21.

Power house, 90x150; boiler room, 82x86; dynamo room, 32x60; coal storage room, 30x86; capacity, 1,500 tons; smokestack, 15 ft. diameter, 125 ft. high.

Soap factory, 28x40, 1st floor, chipping, pressing, packing and shipping room, 26x38; 2nd floor, laboratory and factory, 26x38.

Green house, 38x122; barn, 51x81; upper farm barn, 35x60; reservoir, 900x500; 10 ft. in depth, capacity, 18,000,000 gallons, water pressure at institution, about 80 lbs.

#### Residences

Superintendent's residence, 88x110; *basement*. 9 rooms; *1st floor*, 9 rooms; *2nd floor*, 8 rooms.

Cottages outside the general enclosure. *Cottage A.*, 36x39, 12 rooms; *Cottage B.*, 37x38, 12 rooms; *Cottage C.*, 22x31, 8 rooms.



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